JPRS 76748

3 November 1980

Latin America Report

No. 2210

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Indexes to this report (by keyword, author, personal names, title and series) are available from Bell & Howell, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

JPRS 76748

3 November 1980

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2210

CONTENTS

BOLIVIA

Siles Zuazo Says Coup Related to Drug Trafficking
(EL CARIBE, 1 Oct 80)..... 1

New Projects Aimed at Revitalizing Economic Sector
(Various sources, various dates)..... 3

Prefabricated Housing Industry
Projects to Benefit Farmers
Government Credits
Construction of New Airport
Production Incentive

CHILE

New 'Civic-Military Movement' Analyzed
(Various sources, various dates)..... 8

Pinochet's Motives Questioned, by Jaime Moreno Laval
Willoughby Interviewed

Future Plans of 'Group of 24' Discussed
(Ignacio Balbontin Arteaga Interview; HOY, 24-30 Sep 80). 16

Leader of Antifascist Committee in Cuba Interviewed
(Cristian Gonzalez Interview; JUVENTUD REBELDE, 11
Sep 80)..... 19

COLOMBIA

Life in FARC Stronghold Described
(Fernan Martinez Mahecha; EL TIEMPO, 8, 9 Sep 80)..... 21

Corruption of Government Officials Discussed
(Hector Sanchez P.; EL TIEMPO, 26 Sep 80)..... 31

Turbay, Others Laud Virgilio Barco
(EL TIEMPO, 26 Sep 80)..... 34

President's Letter
Liberal Support for Barco, by Jaime Calderon

Proposed Nuclear Energy Law Analyzed
(Jairo Saravia H.; EL TIEMPO, 26 Sep 80)..... 37

Elimination of Stamped Paper Proposed
(Raul Rodriguez; EL SIGLO, 9 Sep 80)..... 39

CUBA

Construction Aid Activities in Angola Reported
(TRABAJADORES, various dates)..... 41

Construction Pledges Announced
Brigade Activities, Arrival Home, by Edith Martin

Cosmonaut Tamayo Interviewed on Flight Preparations
(Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez Interview; JUVENTUD REBELDE,
18 Sep 80)..... 45

Machado Ventura Closes National Seminar on Sugarcane
(Jose Ramon Machado Ventura; GRANMA, 10 Sep 80)..... 58

Risquet Closes Portworkers National Meeting
(Jorge Risquet; GRANMA, 16 Sep 80)..... 68

PCC Provincial Evaluation Meetings Conclude
(Various sources, various dates)..... 73

Miret at Guantanamo, by Pablo Soroa
Valdes Valdes at Ciego de Avila
Garcia at Havana, by Ariel Rojas, Reinold Rassi

Psychology of Combat Readiness Explained
(Roberto Echevarria; VERDE OLIVO, 14 Sep 80)..... 76

Eastern Army Border Brigade Initiates Emulation
(Pablo Noa; VERDE OLIVO, 17 Sep 80)..... 81

'Productive' Use of Farm Machinery Discussed
(Magda Martinez; BOHEMIA, 12 Sep 80)..... 85

HONDURAS

Students Repudiate Salvadoran Foreign Minister's Visit
(Radio Sandino; 17 Oct 80)..... 99

Briefs
Charge Troops Helping Salvadoran Regime 101

NICARAGUA

'BARRICADA' Says 'LA PRENSA' Abusing Freedom of Press
(Editorial; BARRICADA, 8 Oct 80)..... 102

Station Hails Pardons as Sign of Human Rights Climate
(Carlos Jose Guadamuz; Managua Domestic Service, 14 Oct 80)..... 104

Briefs
'NEUVO DIARIO' Not To Join LAPA 106

PANAMA

Paper Praises U.S. Ambassador's Statements
(Editorial; LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, 9 Oct 80)..... 107

Turbay's Congratulations to Royo Described as 'Calculated'
(Julio E. Linares; LA PRENSA, 8 Oct 80)..... 108

PDC Official Says Election Results Prove People Want Change
(Milciades A. Ortiz, Jr; LA PRENSA, 8 Oct 80)..... 110

Former Envoy to U.S. Discusses Election Results, Economic Problems
(Carlos Lopez Guevara Interview; LA PRENSA, 5 Oct 80).... 113

Interview With Former Guerrilla Hugo Spadafora
(Hugo Spadafora Interview; LA PRENSA, 16, 17 Oct 80)..... 117

SURINAME

Netherlands Government Studies Suriname Treaty Request
(ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU, 3 Oct 80)..... 127

SILES ZUAZO SAYS COUP RELATED TO DRUG TRAFFICKING

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 1 Oct 80 p 10

[Text] New York, 30 Sep--Hernan Siles Zuazo, former president of Bolivia, today described Gen Luis Garcia Meza's takeover last July as "the first coup d'etat caused by drug trafficking."

Siles Zuazo, head of the Democratic and Popular Unity which won 37 percent of the popular vote in the 29 June elections, had the chance to become president of Bolivia on 4 August. He made this comment during a press conference sponsored by the Council on Hemispheric Affairs.

The former Bolivian president denounced "the participation of Argentine military advisers in planning the conspiracy" and said that "we have received reports that those advisers also participated in interrogations and, unfortunately, torture."

Siles Zuazo indicated that Bolivian exports total about $650 million annually while drug traffic income is estimated at $700 to $800 million a year.

He said that, during the brief administration of President Lidia Gueiler who was overthrown by Garcia Meza, "the Ministry of Interior had investigated drug traffic in order to start legal procedures." It "revealed many of the connections between the drug traffic and the military who took over."

He cited the present minister of interior, Col Luis Arce, as an example. He "owns the main transportation enterprise that transports narcotics; this is important since the transportation of narcotics brings in as much income as drug production."

He added that "as a precaution, Arce announced the death penalty for drug traffickers and subversives. However, that only insures the continuation of the repressive system."

Siles Zuazo read parts of a document written last August by the Bolivian Episcopal Conference, citing the cases of Father Julio Tumiri, head of the Human Rights Assembly, and Father Juan Envis, a Jesuit, director of the "Faith and Joy" movement and a member of the Human Rights Assembly.

According to the document, Father Tumiri, 69 years old, wrote his testimony on toilet paper while he was in jail. According to that document and the testimony of other prisoners, Father Tumiri was "horribly tortured."

Father Envis, who went to the authorities to inquire about the whereabouts of other Jesuits, was also arrested and tortured, according to the document.

A letter accompanied the document. It was from "the mothers in the town of Caracoles" some 100 kilometers south of La Paz. They denounced "looting, rapes, mass arrests and other atrocities committed by the armed forces."

The former president said that "the Bolivian people are fighting against the monopoly of the communications media and weapons by work slowdowns and civil disobedience."

Siles Zuazo predicted that, before the end of the year, "that movement will have created total isolation and internal dissent within the armed forces, opening the way for a return to democracy."

Meanwhile, it was reported from La Paz that the Permanent Bolivian Episcopal Council was convoked for an urgent meeting to analyze the deterioration of relations between the Catholic Church and the military government.

The secretary general of the episcopal conference, Monsignor Alejandro Mestre, did not set a date but church sources thought the meeting would be held this week.

The sources said that the government has not complied with agreements with the church hierarchy concerning the arrest of priests, raids of religious orders and aid to political prisoners.

The meeting would study the case of Father Alvaro Puente, study prefect at the main Jesuit school in this city, who was arrested on Friday by a group of civilians and exiled to Buenos Aires over the weekend, according to Jesuit superiors in Bolivia.

Victor Blajot, superior of the Jesuit order, and Vicente Beneyto, rector of San Calixto School, stated that Father Alvaro Puente's arrest "violates the verbal agreement between church authorities and the military that no priest, monk or sister can be arrested without an agreement between both authorities."

7717
CSO: 3010

NEW PROJECTS AIMED AT REVITALIZING ECONOMIC SECTOR

Prefabricated Housing Industry

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 1 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] With an investment of $5 million, an industrial plant for prefabricated wood houses will be installed in Santa Cruz, according to Dr Oscar Ramirez Pacheco, director of the PROINTERCONT [Promoters of Continental Trade] consortium.

That consortium recently installed a tractor factory in Santa Cruz for agricultural, forestry and road projects.

Ramirez Pacheco said that the prefabricated housing plant will have a special section for treatment of multipurpose lumber which will mean a higher aggregate value for national lumber production.

The prefabricated houses will be marketed within the country but there are plans to expand to foreign markets.

He indicated that the investments made in that plant will permit our country to produce prefabricated wood houses with all the conveniences and installable in any part of the country in an exceptionally short time.

He noted that prefabricated houses are not only used in the rural area but in large cities in the United States and Europe.

He indicated that the designs and plans for prefabricated houses will make that housing system very acceptable in Bolivia, especially considering its low cost compared to traditional houses.

He referred to the great problem of the national housing shortage which this factory will try to help solve.

He said: "The prefabricated housing plant will be installed with the objective of producing finished lumber which has a higher marketing value. Through the construction of wood housing, the country will save foreign currency which it needs for other vital things."

He indicated that once the prefabricated housing plant begins production, the consortium that he represents will install a marketing enterprise that will help develop national forestry activities.

The consortium brought foreign capital to the country to be invested in strictly productive activities, according to Ramirez Pacheco.

Projects to Benefit Farmers

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Sep 80 p 2

[Text] Oruro, 30 Aug--The Regional Development Program for Oruro Communities invested 4 million pesos in more than 34 projects in different rural sectors of that department.

Engineer Jose Soto, director of the development organization, revealed: "The rural infrastructure program has been carried out in communities in the department of Oruro and the northern part of Potosi within its jurisdiction. This is part of a social program whose objective is to improve the environment, especially in depressed and border areas."

The construction includes schools, sanitation offices, potable water reservoirs, filtration systems, irrigation dams, levees, etc.

The economic objective of these projects is to increase rural agricultural and livestock productivity and to increase the low income of these workers. He reported that, along with these community projects, there were also projects to improve highways, bridges, small irrigation systems and agricultural construction.

The projects listed by engineer Soto Fernandez were: a school in Chiquiriyo; a potable water reservoir in Puqui; a sanitation office in Huardana; a medical post in Sorachi; an irrigation reservoir and levees in Anocariri; a cooperative center and agricultural construction in Llallagua; a potable water reservoir in Cacachaca; a filtration system in Callumalliri; a potable water reservoir in Pacariza; a potable water reservoir in Agua Rica; an irrigation dam in Cruz de Macha; a school in Turaquiri; a school in Huancanapi; a medical post in Santiago de Ajencha; a potable water reservoir in Clacha; a potable water reservoir in Villa Candelaria; an irrigation dam in Pilani; an irrigation dam in Buena Vista; and schools in Vinaya, Finca Esquema, Bombury, Collana, Tuica, Jarana, Ravelo, Sauta, Colcoma, Maraca, Patacalasaya, Choco, Chilcapalca and Yurimata.

The funds for this construction came from USAID Bolivia and the Bolivian General Treasury.

Government Credits

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] "The armed forces are aware of the important role of the agricultural workers. Therefore, the Military-Campesino Pact has been ratified as a symbol of national unity and integration," said Col Julio Molina, minister of agriculture and campesino affairs, during a campesino rally yesterday in Montero, Santa Cruz.

He said that nature has given us highly productive soil, the furrow is waiting and we only have to go out and plant.

He added: "Let us go, then, and produce more and better; we have the ability. Today national reconstruction is in full swing. Let us all work to meet that great challenge we have ahead of us: the true political, social and economic independence of our beloved fatherland."

Colonel Molina added that if the campesino wants to produce more, the government, through the appropriate channels, will offer him the necessary and timely aid so that he will improve his production. Agricultural insurance has already been implemented to protect the small farmer against possible changes in weather, insect infestation or bad crops.

He said: "The agricultural insurance will also permit the campesino to request and obtain credit since he will have endorsement for his production. This insurance is already available in the Cochabamba valley; it will later be available throughout national territory."

Colonel Molina met with the campesinos to organize them in responsible and representative groups, cooperatives or precooperatives. "That way, it will be easier for them to present their problems which, in general, are common to a region and the government can take care of those problems better."

Finally, he pointed out that self-help programs still exist under the Armed Forces Civic Action and the National Community Development Service.

Construction of New Airport

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 22 Sep 80 p 2

[Text] The final studies for the construction of the new Cochabamba airport are in the hands of the World Bank which is studying financing for that project. It will cost about $70 million and will take 4 years, according to the AASANA [Auxiliary Air Navigation Services Administration].

According to the information supplied by the AASANA, the new landing strip 13-31 is a major objective and will become reality "with the cooperation of the World Bank which is studying the project for financing."

The new strip will be 3,000 meters long and 45 meters wide and can even be used by the Jumbo Jet 747's "which are the largest in the world."

The final studies, designs and other documents for the construction of that new landing strip were drawn up by AASANA professionals and technicians. According to what was reported, they have already been given to the international finance organization for study.

They said that the present landing strip at Jorge Wilsterman Airport is limited due to increased technology and modernization. It is also dangerous for the city and has already been the object of protests, petitions and other complaints by civic organizations in Cochabamba.

They said: "The construction of a new landing strip, designated 13-31 by AASANA, is an aspiration of that department which AASANA will make a reality."

They explained that, according to the studies, construction of that mammoth project will cost $70 million which the World Bank can provide, according to its representatives. The Bolivian Government would contribute a lesser sum.

They said that the project will take 3 to 4 years so it is considered a long-term project.

Reinforcement

AASANA spokesmen indicated that in the meantime, as an emergency measure because of air traffic, there has been reinforcement of the asphalt area of the present field at Jorge Wilsterman Airport. This will permit the LAB [Lloyd Bolivian Air Line] to operate all its airplanes.

They said that work on this field consisted of an asphalt area 8 centimeters thick and 2,650 meters long "which will permit the operation of 727-200 airplanes with a weight of 155,000 pounds."

This work done on the 04-22 landing strip cost 45 million pesos. It was totally financed by the Bolivian General Treasury, according to AASANA executives.

They added that this reinforcement project made it possible for the Jorge Wilsterman Airport to return to normalcy; its air operations are no longer restricted.

Production Incentive

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 26 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] The Huanuni mining enterprise under COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] will pay its workers production bonuses for August of between $7,000 to $20,000, according to sources in that state enterprise.

The payment will start on Saturday. The indicated production bonus is 182 percent of the cash wages which do not include family subsidies, extra work, overtime, contracts, etc.

The source remarked that the Huanuni workers in general responded positively to the call of the government and executives of COMIBOL to increase production rates within the framework of peace and discipline that has existed in the country for 2 months.

In this way, Huanuni remains the most profitable enterprise in the state mining system through its continually increasing production rate of tin.

This contrasts with July when Huanuni lost more than $600,000 because of its low production after 15 years. Now that the road to normalcy and constructive work has been taken again, there are better results particularly for the workers who received additional income as they had months ago, according to the sources.

7717
CSO: 3010

NEW 'CIVIC-MILITARY MOVEMENT' ANALYZED

Pinochet's Motives Questioned

Santiago HOY in Spanish 24-30 Sep 80 pp 9-10

[Article by Jaime Moreno Laval]

[Text] Gen Augusto Pinochet was the father and the godfather. However, the birth and baptism of the Civic-Military Movement (MCM)--which came into the world the night of 11 September--have been on its progenitor's mind for several years.

In his message to the country in 1975, the chief of state called for the formation of such a movement. It had an echo. A group of civilians met in the La Leonera Hotel, and there arose a single, laconic bellow: MUN, the National Unity Movement. It died from a lack of interest in survival. In July 1978, the boyish cry of Ignacio Astete was heard in La Serena. He called upon Chileans to close ranks "around a civic movement that will turn Pinochetism into the overwhelming force . . ."

The summons went in one ear and out the other. The leader was praised for his "generosity" (EL MERCURIO), but not for his political astuteness. Many supporters of the government thought it was inappropriate for the era of a "caudillo" to begin.

It is possible that, after 7 years in power, Pinochet has concluded that only he--and in an atmosphere of victory--could at last set in motion what he had already proposed 5 years before. And thus it was that he directly asked men, women and children to sign up, starting on the following day, in the local communities to "form the great Chilean Civic-Military Movement." Bemused, the towns improvised registers for those who might answer the president's call. It was still not known very well what the MCM was all about.

Apolitical--Among "liberal" or "soft" junta supporters concern was noted. They wondered whether General Pinochet's initiative was political. Within a few hours they were calmed by the chief of state himself: "The movement will involve labor, not politics."

Some thought that behind the MCM was the hand of Pablo Rodriquez. The latter, on discussing the plebiscite, concluded that the majority of the people do not want to return the monopoly on generation and exercise of power to the political parties.

Pondering the results of the 11 September voting, journalist Silvia Pinto expressed the opinion that it marks a transition between an administrative government and a regime "with a civic-military movement."

Minister of the Interior Sergio Fernandez also stripped the political label from the newly announced product. He stated that the political parties are in abeyance, and the government could scarcely sponsor one, "particularly when it had the character of a single party, which is a sad sign of totalitarian regimes." According to Fernandez, the MCM will only try to bring organization to efforts to mobilize the citizenry to serve Chile.

Thus far, the most fervent advocate of the MCM is General Pinochet's former press secretary, Federico Willoughby, who knows the general's personality well. To Willoughby, it is clear that Pinochet is seeking a means of civic-military unification with the political support that he has received. He also does not want the groups supporting him to be in a position of engaging in disputes. Moreover, the chief of state probably thinks that only a political route can provide the stability that the economic model requires; and there is nothing better for this than unification at the local level, with a single objective: to achieve the regime's goals.

Although they don't like it--the man who worked closely with General Pinochet told HOY that the groups supporting the government have been guilty of inertia while "the opposition has never stopped mobilizing." He does not doubt that the leader of the MCM will be its creator, "although there are people who may not like him to exercise both civilian and military leadership."

The "liberals" expressed their satisfaction with the MCM only after General Pinochet's clarification concerning its apolitical purpose. Jaime Guzman stated that he interpreted it as an intensification of social action at the community level, given the importance that local government has in the new institutionality. A political party? In response to this question, Guzman said that the concept of a military government is opposed to the existence of a political movement.

Roberto Pulido, chairman of the group New Democracy--a body with close ties with Guzman--told HOY that, to the extent that the MCM was not a political organization, "We like it a great deal because it will serve to strengthen social action at the municipal level." To Pulido, the structure of the MCM should be only local--not national--and its actual leader will be the local mayor. He said, too, that to transform it into a political party "is totalitarianism, fascism," and that observation of other countries that have attempted that suggests that they are "false fronts that attract no one."

The representative of New Democracy does not believe that the MCM has arisen to eliminate differences and unite, once and for all, heterogeneous groups that support the regime. He spoke categorically on this point: "Before, there was a struggle concerning the institutional line to be taken by the regime; but that has now been determined. They have said 'No' to the corporate state and 'Yes' to an institutionality aimed toward democracy."

From this mold?--Despite the president's explanations concerning the nature of the MCM, doubts persist because its potential members are not wholly in agreement.

Specialists in Latin-American militarism believe that the stage of Paraguayan-style bossism (Stroessner) has passed. Today, the military regimes are more institutional, they add, and their style is not that of the Nazis and Fascists of prewar Europe. That is because they seek mass apathy, fearing mobilization of their followers, and thus they do away with political parties as an organized link between civilian society and the state.

These same analysts have observed that the new Latin-American military authoritarians prefer the technical relationship between the government and social groups. Could the Chilean military regime be coming from this mold with the MCM?

As of the end of last week, in the municipality of Santiago 600 people had registered; in La Reina, 30; in Las Condes, 120; and in Nunoa, 114. Of those registering, 60 percent were women.

An unemployed man who was waiting his turn in line to register in the municipality of Nunoa told HOY: "I'm doing it to place myself at the disposal of the authorities and to work for Chile." An employed man, Fernando Reyes, said: "I'll sign up with the entire family because President Pinochet needs support."

None of the towns visited by HOY was certain how the MCM will operate, nor when it will officially begin. It is a movement full of surprises. But, like any movement, it will reveal itself as it goes. . . .

Willoughby Interviewed

Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish 25 Sep-1 Oct 80 pp 6-8

[Interview with Federico Willoughby, former press secretary to President Pinochet, by M. Angelica Bulnes]

[Text] Federico Willoughby (41 years old, married to journalist Martita Olivos and father of three children) was an Alessandrist--and a personal friend of the former president--an ardent fighter against Popular Unity, and, since 11 September 1973, press secretary

to President Pinochet, a post which he resigned because of ill health. At present, he calls himself an independent man, devoted, in addition to his work, to safeguarding his health, and retired from politics. "I consider myself a conservative. I belonged to the Conservative Party, and when it started to become a hybrid, I left it. What I liked about the conservatives and the rightists was that they were an absolutely indigenous expression of Chilean public sentiment, a distillation of the spirit of Portales."

[Question] Although you've retired from politics, you're engaged in it through your articles in the press, calling for the resignation of ministers, proposing a political movement . . .

[Answer] No; I'm practicing more journalism than politics. Public affairs interest me; and the perspective that I get from trying to influence people's political views while having no personal ambition is a very interesting perspective. I have a limitation that prevents me from actively participating in any public matter, and this gives me a unique opportunity, a very rich experience that can scarcely be described.

Political Movement

[Question] For 4 years you have been asserting that the government should be supported by a civic-military movement that is political. President Pinochet--in his speech of the 11th--gave a green light for the movement to become a reality. Do you think that he is also proposing it as a form of political support?

[Answer] I think so because where the president needs political support is among the rank and file, and it is there where unification has to take place; and by the rank and file I mean the local communities. This movement has to mature and win itself a place in the national political scene. It is a movement called upon to go about acquiring greater distinction as it develops. And this is very important because the idea of creating a "Pinochetist" political party or of converting a group of personal friends into a party, which was called "national unity," failed because it did not have a true structure.

Willoughby does not accept the idea that this movement can be identified--owing to known historical experiences--with a movement of the Francoist or Fascist type. In his opinion, the Chilean Government does not fit historical patterns. It is a political experiment, and the experiences of other countries are not applicable to it.

[Question] How does a political movement function in a country where political activity officially does not take place?

[Answer] The lack of activity is due to the need to prevent action by the antidemocratic parties, a situation which has been fairly well remedied, judging from the results of the plebiscite. It was also to counteract the influence of international groups that had achieved preponderance in Chile, and to exclude from political activity those demagogs who collaborated in creating the crisis. For just as there are responsible former legislators who contributed to the good of Chile, there was a large number of former legislators and people who were parasites on public life. They lived from the wealth, activities and privileges of the parties.

[Question] And what part would be played in this movement by the people you called good former legislators?

[Answer] It is an individual problem; but I believe that when President Pinochet says, "Come and stand under the wing of the government," it is an invitation.

[Question] The opposition disagrees with most of the reforms carried out by the government. Is it realistic to expect them to take part in actions that they censure?

[Answer] It will depend on the seriousness or power of the movement. If it has sufficient power to carry along the rank and file, the latter will carry along the leaders.

Minister of the Interior: Mission accomplished?

[Question] There are those who think a movement that represents the regime's supporters is interesting, but they believe that it should not be organized by the government. On the other hand, you are proposing that the minister of the interior organize

[Answer] Perhaps he should at the outset, and after . . . I think that the minister of the interior has to be the organizer not only of the backing by the government's supporters, but also he should assume the ongoing task of conciliating all the people who are partly in agreement; that is, approach the Church, union leaders, the parties that declare themselves in opposition, and attract them to the government to produce effects within them themselves.

[Question] But the government in turn criticizes opposition groups a great deal.

[Answer] Well, then a person is needed who has a certain political skill, because he will have to navigate in turbulent waters.

[Question] However, once a "reconciliation party" was planned, and apparently it was disallowed.

[Answer] Then the problem should have been solved right there, there was one solution. Besides, that was a special incident that went beyond politics.

[Question] In your column in the daily LA TERCERA you have clearly sought changes in the cabinet, and you have specifically referred to the minister of the interior. Why?

[Answer] More than the change of a minister or of a cabinet, the important thing is that the country accepted a political formula that is a transition for adaptation to a constitutional solution. That period begins in March 1981. During this period, the president of the republic, with the powers granted him by the citizenry, can observe his cabinet members' capability for adapting to these new conditions.

[Question] Why wouldn't they adapt if they have worked together all these years on the government's program and within its framework?

[Answer] Because the conditions are different. I'm referring to the political ministers and not to those who have specific jobs related to modern needs such as labor, health and justice. The minister of the interior has the president's confidence and can continue permanently in his post. However, I think that the functions for which he was summoned to serve in the government have been carried out. He can serve the country in other tasks, if indeed the chief of state has a more suitable solution. Minister Fernandez has performed excellently; but this is a problem of political circumstances.

Nonexclusive Political Solution

[Question] Some people wonder if they would have to participate in this movement with such people as Gen Manuel Contreras (Ret).

[Answer] I don't know. Personally, I think I would choose who I was going to work with. In any case, if the movement is a political solution, it requires a greater degree of generosity than an exclusive, restrictive solution, which in my opinion is negative and leads to a flaw. For while the Marxists are preparing their cadres with dialectics, the people who support the government are burning themselves up with intrigues and speculations; and this has a serious long-term cost. This movement has a greater depth that goes beyond the daily skirmishes that enliven Chilean politics so much.

[Question] But it seems to be a rather vague depth. . . .

[Answer] That's how deep things are sometimes, a little vague. Politics and love bear a close resemblance.

[Question] Don't you think that this type of movement goes against the sober grain of the Chilean, who, it has been shown, does not actively parti-

cipate in politics, much less in partisan organizations, except in times of crisis?

[Answer] I don't think this country is so sober. Issues have always been contested between men whose names were given to political movements: the Carreristas, the O'Higginsists;coming down to the Alessandrists and Freiists. This is a country that endorses a man. I do not agree that we are politically sober; on the contrary, we are very flighty.

[Question] The political leaders are flighty. . . .

[Answer] The Chilean, who is not very excitable, gets excited about soccer and politics. The people have a natural tendency to be interested in public affairs.

Joining Forces

[Question] And what is the basic purpose of this movement? A long life for the military regime?

[Answer] The purpose is to unite the armed forces and civilians in pursuit of the goals that have been set by the government.

[Question] Isn't that politicizing the armed forces?

[Answer] No, because the armed forces, by taking part in specific tasks (literacy campaign, for example), are carrying out social, not political, work.

[Question] But they're already doing this. . . .

[Answer] Of course, but in coordinating this with the people who are volunteering or who want to colloborate more closely, they are joining forces. The problem that I began stating 4 years ago is that of avoiding dispersion; for otherwise groups arise, the elites, the people engaged in corridor politics, the distorted images. What is important that all this feeling expressing the Chilean reaction to Marxism have a political interpretation that outlives people. After the experience of Marxism in Chile and the experience of the Christian Democrats, the idea that processes are irreversible has ceased to be a dogma for me.

[Question] You have asserted that the differences among supporters of the government are problems of cliques. Don't you think that the problem is more fundamental and that it concerns the fact that some want Chile to take the democratic road and others want to perpetuate the military government?

[Answer] Possibly, but I don't know of anyone in the government who is opposed to President Pinochet's continuing in his work for another 10 years;

and if they feel that way, they don't say so. It seems to me that they are all quarrels over power; that, perhaps, following calm analysis and under the powerful authority imposed by unity, those positions should disappear.

[Question] Did you favor a gradual transition?

[Answer] Yes, extremely gradual, so that the model could make its own place.

[Question] Do you think we are moving toward a fully democratic regime?

[Answer] I think that this is a democratic regime, a democratic experiment of a different sort.

[Question] And the future?

[Answer] This is a country capable of adjusting to itself and of seeking its own solutions. I think our task is in the medium term, because medium-term political conditions will offer a perspective of the long term. Chile will always be democratic. He who believes otherwise is wasting his money and his time.

[Question] And what regime would you like for Chile?

[Answer] The one we have.

9085
CSO: 3010

FUTURE PLANS OF 'GROUP OF 24' DISCUSSED

Santiago HOY in Spanish 24-30 Sep 80 p 17

[Interview with Ignacio Balbontin Arteaga, member of the executive committee of "The 24," by Patricia Verdugo]

[Text] For 7 years he focused his sociological research on "the institutional crisis in Chile," and now he has shifted to "social mobilization in democratic terms." That is, in simpler words, Ignacio Balbontin Arteaga (40, married, three daughters) appears to be a good representative of the dissidents who have spent 7 years wondering why what is happening is happening and recently have decided to move down a path that is not mere reaction to what the Pinochet government decides to do.

Balbontin says that, in his case, it is "neither so much nor so little." He was one of 13 Christian Democrats who, on that same 11 September 1973, signed a declaration that they would never cease fighting for the return of democracy. Between January and March of 1978 he was one of the 12 who were punished with exile to the northern altiplano. He was a university professor, and now he is a researcher for the FLACSO [Latin-American School of Social Sciences] (on the project undertaken with the Academy of Christian Humanism) and 1 of the 10 members of the executive committee of the group "The 24."

[Question] On 9 September, "The 24" issued a call to all Chileans "to undertake the commitment to democracy." Is that summons intended to lead to the formation of a movement?

[Answer] Without invading the political parties' territory, we want to form a great Movement for a Commitment to Democracy, a social movement that -- first of all -- seeks to have Chileans who voted "No" explain, in positive terms, what their position was. Just as the experience of "The 24" proved that, despite ideological differences, it was possible

to come to terms because of social needs. With this call we are trying to create a framework within which millions of Chileans can begin to act. For the major "achievement" of the government with its "plebiscite," in quotes, was to divide Chileans in half. Previously, the political deadlock was among the famous three thirds. Today we are in a deadlock between two groups, and that is very dangerous. . . .

[Question] But the official figures didn't indicate any sort of deadlock.

[Answer] They were juggled. There is a scientific sample, obtained with a completely proper methodology, that proves a 10 percent statistical fraud. It is the result of exaggerating the size of an indeterminate universe because of the lack of electoral registers. Add to this the fraud at many polling places owing to the absence of representatives watching over the "No" votes; and add the Chileans who live in exile, between 500,000 and 700,000 over the age of 18. For something very strange emerges from the official figures: Every Chilean who lives in Chile voted; no one failed to vote. For you have to eliminate those in exile from the universe of citizens, 6,750,000, according to official statistics. Since 6,268,000 voted, no one at home could have failed to vote.

[Question] Supposing that you were right, the third of rightists grew until it became one-half supporting Pinochet, and that is quite an accomplishment. . . .

[Answer] The difference is that our 50 percent is stronger because it consists of committed Chileans who ran the risk of voting "No," of being repressed and persecuted. And although they are ideologically heterogeneous, they are prepared to take risks, to different degrees, to achieve their goal of a democratic way of life.

[Question] Lately there has been increasing criticism behind closed doors of the immobility of the top leaders of the political parties. Do you think that the action of a social movement could overcome the problem?

[Answer] Unfortunately, all partisan organizations have devoted themselves to the defense of their own outdated ideological positions. And, despite their efforts, have not been able to deal with this crisis, uniting the common will. Nor will this fraudently approved constitution relieve the institutional crisis. Before, the polarization was among three groupings, and now there are two.

Before, democracy operated only in political matters, and not in the other facets of the system (social, economic and cultural). Now a society of apartheid, a discriminatory one, has been formed.

The time has now arrived to challenge the partisan organizations. What I propose is a program of social mobilization that begins by taking upon

itself expression of the will of the majority and making it effective. And those who undertake the commitment should not only be prepared, in the future, to support a democratic government in operation but to live democratically from then on in all their social organizations.

[Question] Just as some think that all the little dictatorships explain the birth and flourishing of a dictatorial government, do you think that all the little democracies will give rise to the great big democracy?

[Answer] Yes, adding in all the middle-size democracies and everyone's personal commitment to democracy, it is really possible to construct a great big democracy because for us democracy is an end and a means at the same time. It is an end to the extent that it constitutes a space in which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is possible. And it is a means because it constitutes a procedure for majority rule with respect to minorities. That is, a commitment to conduct consistent with the goal.

[Question] Now, in practical terms, what does the call by "The 24" come to?

[Answer] It calls upon people and organizations to sign the Declaration of Commitment to Democracy as a first step. Then, to support the actions of the vicariates, the Chilean Committee on Human Rights and the work of "The 24."

Signers have before them three obstacles to overcome: 1) Fear of repression: They must defeat it, denouncing any assault, organizing and mobilizing; 2) Consumerism: They must not consume more than necessary because to the extent that a person becomes indebted he ceases to be free, and he ceases to be capable of criticism (said in another way, this means rejecting the fact that Chile today has a foreign debt of $10 billion and rejecting the speculative economy that transfers goods already created by the government to a group or individual); and 3) Fear of freedom: The product of being accustomed to the existing situation, which causes one to think that he is incapable of creating a future, to believe the story that only Pinochet can prevent chaos. They must think that all of us Chileans are building the future, and they must again have confidence in our own abilities.

9085
CSO: 3010

LEADER OF ANTIFASCIST COMMITTEE IN CUBA INTERVIEWED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 11 Sep 80 p 4

[Interview with Cristian Gonzalez, chairman of the Chilean Antifascist Resistance Committee in Cuba, by Marcy Garcia]

[Text] Pinochet has called for a rigged plebiscite as a supposed response to the struggle of the Chilean people. This struggle has been steadily growing since early 1978, and it has intensified during the last few months.

The response by that fellow people in the Southern Cone to the farcical plebiscite was described by Cristian Gonzalez, chairman of the Chilean Antifascist Resistance Committee in Cuba (CRA) in an interview with JUVENTUD REBELDE. He was completing another tour in search of solidarity with the open struggle against fascism in that country.

"It is important," the Chilean leader said, "to bear in mind that this call for a plebiscite demonstrates the increasing internal weakening of the dictatorship. The dispute between 'hard' fascists and 'soft' fascists has recently become a public issue in Chile."

According to Gonzalez, there is no group within the ruling clique that embodies the aspirations of the people, let alone takes interest in restoring a democratic system. It is simply a dispute in which continued domination by the monopolies, the multinationals -- at the cost of the people's frustrated wish for freedom -- is assumed.

At the same time, the ruling clique is attempting to reaffirm its power to control the dissenting groups in the pro-imperialist bourgeois alliance, and to neutralize the criticism that is beginning to arise from within the armed forces.

The fascists say, "Destroy them!" The traditional right, in turn, says, "No, relax controls!" Thus, they say such things as this: "If you shut the doors, the Communists are the ones who will benefit." The fascists respond, "These proposals have to be opposed. Otherwise, this group

will become useful to the communists." That is the reality of the issue between the so-called "hard" and "soft" fascists, the Chilean leader indicated.

Gonzalez said, "The tyrant is attempting to take advantage of the repressive conditions and of his control over the communications media. He is not taking into account the people's power, the determination of the working class, of the democratic groups, not to permit the charade to take place."

And thus, as all the organizations and groups in the country have spoken, manifesting the determination to oppose Pinochet's farce, unity among those in opposition has been achieved as never before during the 7 years of fascism in Chile.

The chairman of the CRA in our country said further that the absurdity of the dictator's measure has spurred the combativeness of the masses, for the people have ceased to be afraid. The repudiation is expressed in the streets, where people shout without fear, "Down with Pinochet! Democracy now!" "United, the people will never be defeated!" These are slogans heard daily, and there are also posters, murals and other expressions of opposition and protest that have never been seen before.

All this is occurring despite the fact that since early this year there has been a renewal of repressive activities: constant military maneuvers, sweeps in towns, searches, mass arrests. It is under these conditions that the plebiscite is taking place.

Asked about the Chilean people's choices, the chairman of the CRA answered: All resources have to be mobilized for the active struggle to overthrow the dictatorship, for establishment of a provisional government including all democratic and antifascist groups, and the convening of a constituent assembly that will guarantee restoration of liberty.

Because of the farcical plebiscite, there has been a de facto coming-together. In fact, the democratic and antifascist groups are now in a new phase. The only task left to the Chilean people is a direct assault on the dictatorship involving all forms of combat, including the most intense violence, the chairman of the Chilean Antifascist Resistance Committee said in closing.

9085
CSO: 3010

LIFE IN FARC STRONGHOLD DESCRIBED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 8, 9 Sep 80

[Article by Fernan Martinez Mahecha]

[8 Sep 80, p 2-B: Three Days in El Pato]

[Text] Newsman Fernan Martinez Mahecha spent 3 days in the El Pato region, where he spoke with members of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and with settlers fleeing from there to Neiva.

In the heart of Colombia there is another completely independent "country" covering 3,000 square kilometers; it is called El Pato.

There is not so much as a single police inspector here. The settlers do not know what a ballot box is. The law is enforced by more than 1,200 men who go by the name of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

If a person steals, kills, rapes, smokes marihuana or commits any other crime, the FARC try him, and he will most likely be sentenced to death, exile or forced labor on his victim's farm.

All of the children born over the last 15 years have been treated by guerrilla doctors, and guerrilla instructors have taught them how to read and write, but not with the "Joy of Reading" primer; they have used "The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State" by Friedrich Engels.

El Pato has three main access routes: Balsillas (Huila), Piedra Marcada (Huila) and San Vicente del Caguan (Caqueta). Everyone passing through is checked out by the guerrillas, who hide in the woodlands with their camouflaged uniforms and stop travelers to ask why they are there. If it is a new settler with a wife and children, they might let him through, but if it is a government official, he will not make it 10 kilometers before they have forced him to return, if he is lucky; they might simply shoot him with their rifles.

The authorities were only too familiar with this situation and had allowed this sleeping monster to lie undisturbed for several years until this past 24 August. On that day at 1550 hours, the army decided to take over a semiabandoned landing strip at Las Perlas in Lower Pato that was used by the small planes that came in to pay the seven-figure ransoms for the individuals that the guerrilla group had kidnaped. This was not an easy military operation. They knew that several guerrillas were entrenched there with powerful weapons, and therefore they had to initiate the operation by hurling several bombs in the vicinity of the strip to prevent potential troop losses, as happened 2 years ago when a helicopter tried to land at that same spot.

Peasant Farmer Exodus

When the tenant farmers heard the exploding bombs, they were quite rightly frightened and as quickly as the noise of the explosion could travel, they decided to leave for Neiva to ask the government to halt military operations in this fertile zone. By the next day, El Pato was almost deserted. Houses were abandoned. The settlers left with their wives, children, dogs and mules and were in Balsillas 12 days later. Today, Monday, they could well be in the capital of Huila.

The authorities are convinced that this exodus was organized by the guerrillas themselves in a bid to halt the army's onslaught. This stands to reason because the settlers and the guerrillas have magnificent relations. There are two ways people can live in El Pato: as friends or as enemies of the guerrillas. Their enemies do not live long.

This reporter spoke with tenant farmers whose flight had taken them to Santa Helena, 45 kilometers from Neiva. Their makeshift camps consisted of plastic tents. Babes in arms, women and old people were making their way on foot. There could have been as many as 1,500 persons, accompanied by 120 mules, 80 dogs, a parrot and a long-tailed monkey.

"The dogs came because they always follow you, and we needed the mules to take the kids," says a woman of about 50 eating a stew out of a smoked pot; she gives a spoonful to each of her six children and to the two dogs following her.

The march is headed up by a Colombian flag and another white one. In Balsillas, they filed between the soldiers of the battalion there; no one said a single word. It looked like a silent film.

"This is a peaceful march, and I hope they let us talk in Neiva," says Humberto Moncada, the main leader of this movement, whom the

authorities of the Ninth Brigade brand the guerrillas' main helper under the pretext of stocking a cooperative that he heads up.

The women wash their children's clothes in a nearby stream, while others prepare meals under their makeshift tents. The men, all of them with machetes in their belts, help to cut up two steers and give a half pound to each adult and a quarter pound to each child. They call their names as they appear on a list, and the father takes the meat for each family.

Stool Pigeons

All of these peasant farmers are quite familiar with the guerrillas. They come across "the boys" every day as they walk along the trails. Although many of them deny having seen guerrillas, others talk about them as calmly as a child in a city talks about having seen policemen and soldiers.

"The guerrillas never come into your house unless you call them," says Cesar Tobar, who has an 800-plaza farm in Upper Pato near Andalucia, Jorge Villamil's estate.

As long as the peasants do not "snitch" on the guerrillas, they never have problems with them, but if they do, they are executed.

The commander of the Ninth Brigade gave newsmen a detailed account of peasants slain by the guerrillas. They had placed handwritten sentences on top of their bodies. One of them read verbatim: "The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, applies revolutionary justice to Algemiro Grazon because he was a stool pigeon, because he informed on us to the army. This made him a parasite against the struggle fought by poor peasant farmers and students who see poverty and hunger in this system. The people are applying justice and will apply justice to their class enemies who are using the army to torture and massacre our people. But the FARC distinguishes between the high military commands, including the reactionary Camacho Leyva and company, and the rank-and-file."

Las Perlas and the Jungle

Before talking with the El Pato peasants who are evacuating the area, EL TIEMPO flew over the entire region and visited Las Perlas, which is in the jungle and under the full control of the guerrillas.

There is a landing strip here in very poor condition; seen from the air, it looks like a 5-centimeter pencil line in Bolivar Plaza. The troops that have been left there put the pieces of the helicopter that the guerrillas shot down in a bamboo structure, and the sentries use them as seats, holding powerful machine guns behind makeshift trenches.

You can also see the remains of a light plane that crashed as it was trying to land with the ransom money for rancher Gilbero Ramirez Bejerano.

The landing strip was built 18 years ago by settler Martiniano Gonzalez, who later sold it to another family. Since the guerrillas give and take away lands as they see fit, it is thought that Las Perlas was expropriated from its last owner for the exclusive use of the guerrillas. Richard Star was kept at a ranch there.

The takeover of this strip was the largest loss of terrain for the guerrillas, and therefore they are thought to have pushed the peasant farmers into leaving. The army has expressed its intention of leaving troops here indefinitely and of continuing to penetrate throughout El Pato.

This is what the settlers are afraid of, as they would be caught in a veritable combat zone, since the guerrillas have their main leaders and their largest number of men in arms here.

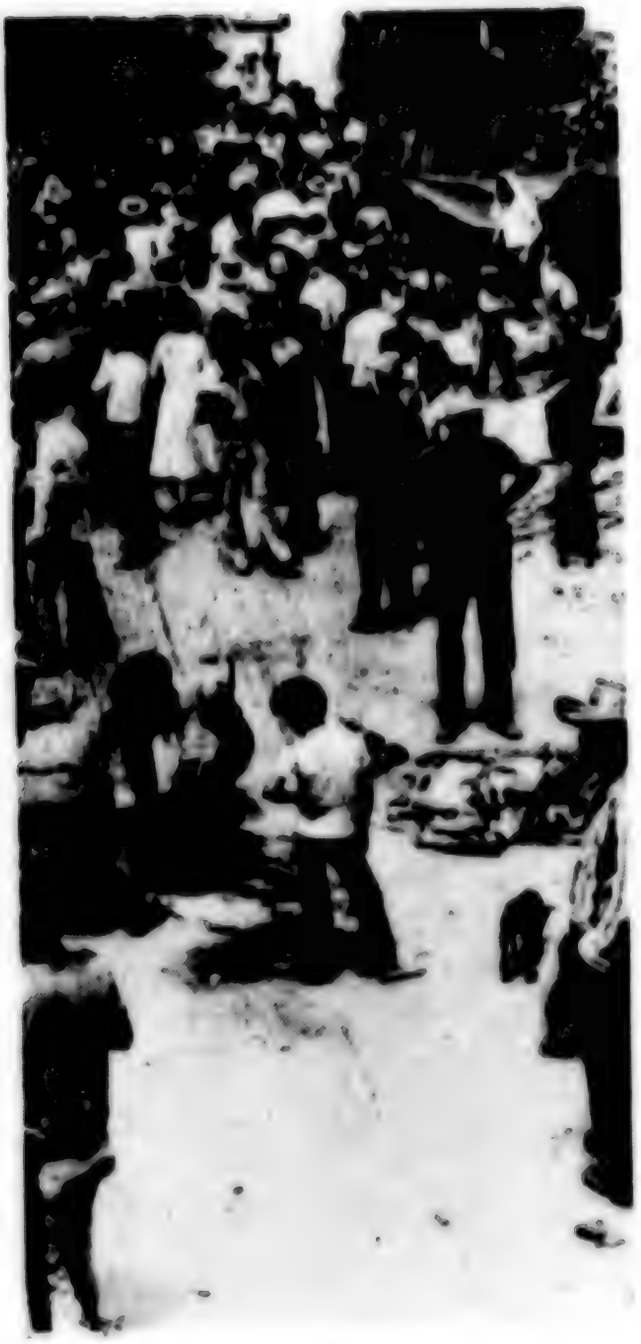
Guerrillas are sent out from El Pato to the rest of the country. All of the rebels are trained here for the other fronts in the Darien region, the Caldas mountains, Santander, La Macarena and the western part of the Cauca. "The cancer spreads from here throughout Colombia," says Gen Luis Enrique Rodriguez Botiva, the commander of the Ninth Brigade.

The climate and the land in this region are among the best in the entire nation. The guerrillas own livestock and grow crops, according to the people heading for Neiva. Besides the Pato River, there are dozens of others winding through the territory taken over by the guerrillas, who follow the Moscow line of the Communist Party.

Twice in previous years the region has been evacuated because of the same problem with guerrillas, or bandits as they used to be called. The settlers returned when amnesty was declared. The people there now came in with the aid of official agencies and the army itself. The road that military engineers are building from Neiva to San Vicente del Caguan, though Balsillas, has received just 5 million in government aid in 18 years. This road, it is thought, could transform the region.

Those Who Remain Behind

At Gibraltar, 50 kilometers from Las Perlas, where the Lower Pato ends, EL TIEMPO spoke with more than 400 settlers who refused to leave the area like their comrades. They agree that the army has helped them and that it represents a sort of guarantee for their lives. Gibraltar is closer to the site of the bombardment than to where the settlers heading for the Huila capital live.



Some of the settlers heading for Neiva as they were resting at Santa Helena, 45 kilometers from the capital of Huila. They have with them their wives and children, as well as several mules and dogs. They are calling for the withdrawal of the army or a 30-day truce to get out all their belongings.

"The odd thing is that people from the Upper Pato, more than 100 kilometers from Las Perlas, are leaving," says a high-level officer from the Rapid Maneuvers Battalion [Batallon Cazadores] headquartered in San Vicente del Caguan.

Have Them Send Buses

Because the settlers heading for the capital of Huila were weary and ill, they asked the authorities for several buses to take people from Santa Helena to Neiva. The army authorized the passage of the vehicles that normally travel these areas. The peasant farmers do not want to break up and are therefore asking for buses just for themselves. They are afraid that the hot and rock-strewn road from Santa Helena to Neiva might do serious harm to the walkers, who are used to the jungle, not to roads. People are showing solidarity with them and asking for aid in schools and universities. As of now, no one knows where they are going to stay in Neiva.

"If they don't fix things up for us there, we'll move on to Bogota," the leaders of the march told EL TIEMPO.

"That land is so good that you can live on the weather alone. Just look at my kids, not a single one sick. That's why we love the region so much," one of the women commented.

When asked whether some subversives might have infiltrated among them, they all stated that they were willing to identify themselves so that the army, which has done a head count on them all, can check whether they are guerrillas or laborers.

"Look at our hands and you'll see that we're all people who work the land. The guerrillas' hands are not like that because rifles don't give you calluses," says one of them, showing his wrinkled, thick-fingered, black-nailed hands.

[9 Sep 80, p 2-B: Guerrilla Lifestyle]

[Text] El Pato, Huila--The guerrillas called him Esteban; family names are not used. For 2 years he carried a 50-pound knapsack on his back, a loose rifle in his hands and in his head the fixed idea that he was going to be slain by an army or a guerrilla bullet.

He had his happy times in the jungle too, especially when at night he would sneak off to the bed of a guerrilla girl. He made love to a different one each night. There were 26 women, and he had sex with 25 of them; the other one was very ugly.

The women who join up live just like the men. They march like them, eat like them, obey the same laws, wear the same camouflaged uniforms and carry the same equipment, plus two extra things: birth control pills and sanitary napkins.

Free love is practiced. Each person sleeps with whomever he or she likes. When they go to bathe in the rivers, the men and women walk around in the nude. They never wash in exposed ponds, for fear that they might be seen by army light planes and helicopters searching for their hideouts.

The largest FARC groups live in the El Pato jungle, located in Huila, Meta and Caqueta. All of the rebels who are to leave for other fronts scattered around Colombia's mountains train there.

In order for a person to join the guerrilla movement, they first monitor all of his activities in the city or town in which he lives. Then, little by little, they begin telling him about the jungle and their political intentions. If the candidate accepts, two guerrillas arrive on the least expected day and take him away. No one can be notified of the departure, not even a person's mother. Esteban was sleeping at his farm in Paujil when they came to get him. He did not even have time to get a picture of his girlfriend or his toothbrush.

They then spend 6, 10, 20 days walking through the forest until they reach the spot where other comrades have been recruited to begin the training course. The instruction is imparted in large, wall-less, tree-branch-covered houses with mattress-less bamboo beds. They are first taught how to handle weapons, cross ravines, march through the undergrowth and crawl when wounded, and they fight mock battles with wooden rifles.

They are also trained to endure hunger and to live on water and a piece of brown sugar loaf for several days. When the guerrillas take flight, they do not stop, not even to pick up the dead who fell in combat. Guerrillas usually escape in pairs, not in groups. Before the ambush, they agree to meet at a certain bend in the river or at a place where there are five cinnamon tree stalks in a straight line. A few of them say prayers.

While at rest, they study and discuss surplus value, the class struggle, the role of the worker in the various systems of production, the laws of historic materialism and the secrets of the dialectic. Marx, Engels, Lenin, Trotsky, Mandel and other Marxist thinkers become their only friends outside the people in their column. "In 6 days you'll have to explain the postulates of Leon Trotsky's Permanent Revolution," they told Esteban 5 weeks after he left his farm.

They also learn how to make bombs out of cookie, butter or deodorant jars. For this they use clamps, nails, pieces of glass and powder. They activate them with an automatic detonator when they see troops walking over others that they have previously buried. They also use them to ambush vehicles, usually at a curve or after a bad stretch of road when they have to slow their pace. The first rule is to shoot the driver and the people in the cab. Then the guerrillas in charge of blowing out the tires shoot, and lastly they fire on the troops, who for 20 seconds or so after the explosion are in disorder. Shots are exchanged for 2 or 3 minutes, and then they begin fleeing along the predetermined paths. Six guerrillas remain at the mouth of the ambush site to fire back in the event of a counterattack.

The Guerrilla Code

The death penalty is meted out, without appeal, for raping the daughters of settlers, divulging secrets, leaving a wounded person on the ground, smoking marihuana, stealing and mistreating a comrade either by word or by deed. Such a trial lasts no more than a half-hour, and the guilty party is tied to a tree in front of all his comrades and shot once, because ammunition is precious to them.

No one can return to everyday life on his own initiative. A person who agrees to join the guerrillas knows that he cannot leave the jungle.

The commander of each front has the personal records of each guerrilla under him. All of their mistakes and successes are written down in notebooks. The children carry these files on their backs, files that also contain information on ammunition and food supplies. Each guerrilla receives an annual salary of 300 pesos.

They can grow beards if they like. When shaving, they use the mirrors that some women carry in the pockets of their fatigues or they look at their reflection in the water. The women use deodorant, and some men put talcum powder on their feet.

The children are also armed. The offspring of either settlers or guerrillas, they start working at age 4 as informers or lookouts. They are given short weapons and put in charge of picking up papers and garbage that get left behind so that their trail cannot be followed.

When they sense that the army is very near, they never light a fire to cook; they just eat dry fish with brown sugar loaf and water. They remove the bark from the sticks they burn so that no smoke will be emitted.

The guerrilla groups in El Pato own farms and grow bananas, yucca and fruits and raise hogs and cattle there. They distribute the land themselves, and there are some areas in which the settlers are not allowed for any reason whatsoever. The peasant farmers working there sometimes see them pass by in groups of up to 400 men, but they do not know which one is the leader.

They hide their belongings high up in the trees. Weapons, bullets, powder, food, clothing, drugs and books are fastened there, and each guerrilla has to remember where he left his things without making any sort of a mark. At times they climb up the trees while troops file past below. They do not so much as breathe.

They sleep on canvas hammocks strung out between trees. They make love in these hammocks. They use cords smeared with repellent to keep snakes out. Everyone sleeps with his rifle by his head. Whoever leaves aside his weapon for even a minute is severely punished.

Ambushes Recorded

They are not allowed to use swear words among themselves, but when they ambush an army patrol, they shout out the ones they have not been able to utter in several months. These ambushes are recorded, and they later play back the shouts, machine gun fire and moans of the wounded while commenting on the details of the battle.

Sometimes they stage parties, dance and drink fermented sugar cane juice. They celebrate 1 May with great discipline and raise their yellow, blue and red flag with the letters FARC painted in black.

"When they played 'brillar hebella,' we had a real good time," Esteban comments in reference to their dances.

Argemiro, the commander of the Third Front, has a lover named Rosa. They say she is very beautiful. She had a son by Argemiro. When she found out that she was pregnant, she came to Bogota to look after herself. She is used as a decoy for attacks on various spots. A year ago she went to the town of La Macarena and flirted with the commander of the police station, who was unable to refuse the requests of this guerrilla "Mata Hari" and took her to see the facilities at his headquarters and told her about the movements of his agents. Two months later, Rosa commanded an assault on the town and fired her rifle at the policeman to whom she had sworn eternal love.

When there has been a battle, the guerrillas are skilled in removing the clothes from slain soldiers. Many of the FARC members wear uniforms riddled with their own bullets, uniforms that they removed from dead army troops. The first thing that they do when they find a

slain soldier is to break the boot laces so that they can be removed readily. The belt with the grenades, canteen and ammunition has by this time been taken off. If they have time, they turn the body face up and push in the stomach to tear the pants along the zipper. "You can make the dead bodies 'suck in' their guts real easy," says Esteban, the former guerrilla who now works with the army. He escaped one night when everyone thought that he was slipping off to a guerrilla girl's hammock, as he had done so very often.

8743
CSO: 3010

CORRUPTION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DISCUSSED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Sep 80 p 2-F

[Article by Hector Sanchez P.]

[Text] The rash of government official downfalls seems to be increasing, as EL MUNDO has now pounced on a governor.

In giving a brief account of government official downfalls under the present administration, we could say that bitter political revenge has gathered momentum, and those in opposition have set up a watchtower from which they can detect any false move by administrators.

The oddest incidents, such as the appointment of a few overseers or paying for a cocktail party with funds earmarked for education, have brought down these public servants as quickly as mangoes are harvested from trees.

One of the institutions hardest hit by the fall of its directors has been the Social Security Fund. Ever since 1972, when its director Hernando Cuevas was fined a ludicrous 1,000 pesos, supposedly for disobedience, the fund has not managed to secure acceptable leadership, and its image is the most tarnished among government agencies.

One downfall that was long in the works (in the Social Security Fund once again) was Ernesto Arango Palacio's. He was, in fact, arrested by detectives in his very own office and put behind bars; a few days later he was forced to resign when charged with misrepresentation, corruption and bribery. Arango was unable to parry the attack against him, despite having wealthy godfathers.

The Arango affair was one of the strangest in the wide range of traps that the enemy sets to bring down officials. The fund director defended himself even by bringing death into the picture, because at a press conference at the Bogota Journalists Club he warned that his life was in jeopardy on account of his adversaries and that his heart could not take all these attacks.

Nevertheless, a few days later the government received his resignation, which was, of course, prompted by the tight squeeze that his opponents had put on him.

The Social Security Fund is now in the midst of another crisis, as its director, Rodrigo Salas, is being swamped by an avalanche of criticism by hundreds of doctors calling for his resignation. They are accusing him of taking possession of patient medical records and of violating professional ethics. In short, it is this fund that has suffered the most setbacks, and as always, its beneficiaries will be the ones who suffer.

A Few Overseers

The appointment of a few overseers, according to the defendant, gave rise to a lengthy battle initiated by a former president against a manager of the Institute of Territorial Credit (ICT). This later culminated with the resignation of the ICT chief in light of the intolerable situation that he was faced with.

ICT manager Rodrigo Garavito was swamped by a mounting wave of criticism over the swelling of the institute's bureaucracy, which the former chief executive had detected.

Cocktails Charged to Education Funds

It can happen in the jungle, in the capital or in any province, and in fact it happened not long ago to a commissioner of Guainia who staged a banquet at which expensive brands of liquor were served and which lasted far into the night. The generous host, without the slightest discretion, paid for the bash with the budget funds earmarked for the construction of schools in the territory and was quite pleased with himself.

But the host of enemies appeared on the scene, and when the drinking spree was over, the Federal Government was already apprised of the commissioner's frivolity. A few days later, the presidential palace issued a message whose most important section read: "Decree removing the commissioner of..."

And thus continue the blunder-prompted removals of officials, the intrigues and the political jealousy of a number of unsuccessful office-seekers in their regions, who cannot rest until they see their rivals out in the street.

The most talked-about case recently involves the governor of Del Valle, Jaime Arizabaleta, who took a kingly trip to the Old World. Upon his return, he was caught up in a whirlwind of criticism that swept away all that he had done in his 2 years as governor. Arizabaleta, who besides being invited by European governments had a per diem allowance of $280 (some 13,000 pesos), compared to just $180 for the president of the republic, tried to justify his princely tour, but a powerful address by a legislator reduced his defense to rubble. Some days later, the former governor was telling his friends how enchanting the nights are under the bridges of Paris and the nostalgia that one feels on the banks of the Thames.

So then, the enemy lies in ambush when someone like Arizabaleta takes such a trip, when some old friends are invited over for drinks or when the mayor of an obscure town "feathers his nest," and there will always be personal or political accounts to render.

8743
CSO: 3010

TURBAY, OTHERS LAUD VIRGILIO BARCO

President's Letter

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Sep 80 p 9-A

[Text] President Turbay Ayala yesterday accepted the resignation of Colombia's ambassador in Washington, Virgilio Barco, describing as "brilliant" his efforts in the post over the last 3 years.

In particular, Turbay underscored Barco's efforts to have a U.S. Senate committee approve the treaty acknowledging Colombia's jurisdiction over the keys of Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrana. The treaty is now awaiting action by the full Senate.

Barco resigned 3 weeks ago and according to his recent announcement, is taking care of a few last things and "preparing to return" to Bogota by the end of October.

He will be replaced by Liberal leader Jorge Mario Eastman, who plans to head for Washington next month also.

Virgilio Barco will be arriving here to head up a major Liberal movement seeking his nomination as the official Liberal candidate for the 1982 presidential election. Yesterday, several Liberal factions in Norte de Santander (not including Public Works Minister Enrique Vargas's group) formally backed Barco's candidacy.

President Turbay's letter to Ambassador Barco reads:

Esteemed doctor and friend,

It was with real sorrow that I learned of your resignation as Colombia's ambassador to the United States of America.

I was very pleased to have enjoyed your effective and loyal cooperation during the time that I have been president. From the ongoing contacts that I had with you, I can gladly assert that your performance as ambassador was brilliant, not just satisfactory.

You undertook many efforts with the U.S. Government, and almost all of them were crowned with success. It would be unfair if I did not underscore your persistent efforts to have ratified the treaty that the authorized representatives of the United States and Colombia signed in good faith in 1972, acknowledging our country's jurisdiction over the keys of Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrana. You succeeded in getting the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to approve the treaty unanimously, and it is now awaiting State Department clearance for final passage by the full Senate. We hope that it can be ratified before the close of the regular session of the U.S. Congress.

I understand very well the powerful reasons why you are returning to our country and your desire to participate more actively in national politics. I do not doubt that your presence in our country will promote understanding among the various factions of the party that you have represented several times in our Congress.

It is only because I realize that it would be useless to ask you to remain as ambassador to Washington that I accept your resignation, while once again expressing my appreciation for the valuable cooperation that you lent the government that I head and wishing you and your family personal well-being and success in your new undertakings.

Your fellow countryman and friend,
Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala

Liberal Support for Barco

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Sep 80 p 9-A

[Article by Jaime Calderon]

[Text] Cucuta, 24 Sep--A document indicative of strong Liberal unity in Norte de Santander around the presidential candidacy of Virgilio Barco Vargas was disclosed here today when departmental congressmen and deputies and Cucuta councilmen from the various Liberal Party factions sent a message to the ambassador in Washington underscoring his exceptional personal qualifications and offering enthusiastic and resolute support for his nomination.

The message is signed by the visible leaders of the various political factions, who ran on separate lists at the last two elections. The document reads as follows:

Cucuta, 24 September 1980
Virgilio Barco V.
Embassy of Colombia, Washington

Realizing how important it would be for the country if a man of your political, intellectual and moral qualifications were nominated as our party's candidate for president and then elected to that post, we

wanted to inform you, as Liberal Party leaders in this section of the country, of our decision to support you actively and enthusiastically in this endeavor, the successful culmination of which we regard as good for the country, for the party and, obviously, for our region.

In making this decision, we are absolutely certain that as leaders of the Liberal Party in Norte de Santander, we have the total and enthusiastic backing of the rank-and-file, who have repeatedly asked us to formalize this sentiment as convincing proof of the recognition that Norte de Santander Liberalism owes to an individual of your proven abilities, who has demonstrated to the country by each of your public and private actions that you are more interested in the organization of the party and the welfare of the nation than any honor you might obtain under the current circumstances.

We acknowledge that this prudent and circumspect approach reaffirms the excellent record of your public life, which has been devoted to serving the nation's most cherished interests.

You can rest assured, Dr Barco, that the Liberal Party in Norte de Santander will not spare any effort to rally together as in our best and hardest times, with the full awareness that once again our department is giving the country its finest and best qualified son, certain that his performence will never disappoint it.

Your friends and fellow party members,
Eustorgio Colmenares, Gustavo Silva G., Jorge Cristo S., Carlos Celis C., Clemente Montanez, Hector Casas, Alfonso Chamie, Gabino Hernandez, Marco C. Leyva, Enrique Cuadros, Ismael Quintero P., Yesmin Colmenares de Zahn, Eduardo Assai, Alberto Ramirez M., Francisco Varela, Margarita de Luna, Max Rincon, Carlos Eduardo Ramirez, Gisela de Morales, Hernando Acevedo, Justo Castellanos.

Virgilio Barco

PROPOSED NUCLEAR ENERGY LAW ANALYZED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Sep 80 p 10-A

[Article by Jairo Saravia H.]

[Text] Bucaramanga, 25 Sep--Mines Minister Humberto Avila Mora will preside for the first time this Friday over the Board of Directors of Coluranio.

The board will undertake a wideranging analysis of its input into the nuclear energy bill that the administration will be submitting to Congress.

It will also attempt to formulate an administrative policy and a new administrative structure for the company.

The general manager of Coluranio, Jaime Garcia Pena, will introduce a preliminary model for the economic appraisal of uranium projects.

It will also consider the transfer by the Mineton Company of France, a partner of Coluranio, of 40 percent of its interests in the country to the Italian company Agip.

The board meeting will be attended by the minister; the manager of ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise], Jose Fernando Isaza; the manager of ISA, German Jaramillo Bendek; the director of IAN [Nuclear Affairs Institute], Ernesto Villareal; the manager of CORELCA [Electric Corporation of the Atlantic Coast], Jacobo Acosta, and the representative of the president of the republic, Jorge Reyes Puyana.

After the meeting, which will start at 900 hours, Minister Avila Mora will attend the signing of electrification contracts for Santander.

At 1600 hours he will preside over the energy forum organized by the Santander Association of Engineers. He will be received there as an honorary member of the Engineers Association and will swear in its new Board of Directors.

This ceremony will also be attended by the president of the Colombian Engineers Association, Felipe Estrada.

At 1900 hours, accompanied by the governor of Santander, Alfonso Gomez Gomez, he will close the meeting of the Engineering Departments currently being held at the Industrial University of Santander.

At the Coluranio meeting they will approve the proposals that will be sent to President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and that will subsequently be formulated into a bill that will seek to prepare the country to undertake the development of nuclear energy.

In addition, the appraisal of economic projects will in the future enable the Federal Government, through Coluranio, to be in a position to decide whether a uranium deposit is commercially feasible or not.

Garcia Pena told EL TIEMPO that at present the results from all of the projects that the company is carrying forward show that radioactive minerals are present in various areas of the country.

He went on to say that since an exploration period lasts about 4 to 8 years, these results can be considered acceptable as part of Coluranio's initial stage of development.

The Colombian Uranium Company was created in March 1978 as a state-run commercial and industrial enterprise to explore for, develop, refine, process and market every kind of radioactive mineral and by-product.

Board of Director meetings have previously been held in Bogota. This is the first time that the minister of mines is holding one in the capital of Santander.

8743
CSO: 3010

ELIMINATION OF STAMPED PAPER PROPOSED

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 9 Sep 80 pp 1, 2

[Article by Raul Rodriguez]

[Text] Finance Minister Jaime Garcia Parra has reported that the administration will submit to the Senate a bill to eliminate the use of stamped paper.

At the opening of a new federal tax collection unit in Bogota, Garcia Parra said that the elimination of stamped paper is another government measure to simplify the complicated administrative procedures that Colombian citizens have to follow.

The minister commented that stamped paper is an age-old system in our country, that it is no longer functional and that it thus causes problems for citizens and the public administration.

Colombians will be able to use regular paper for all of the formalities that currently require stamped paper; this will eliminate an unnecessary expense and streamline the handling of red tape, which represents a headache for the people today, Garcia Parra added.

Stamped paper does not bring in much revenue for the nation, since its production costs total 350 million pesos while receipts from its sale amount to 380 million.

A sheet of stamped paper currently costs 10 pesos and it costs 6 pesos to produce; this is profitable neither to the government nor to users, Garcia Parra stated.

Decentralization Program

The finance minister unveiled a new tax collection office in the Siete de Agosto section of Bogota. It is part of the decentralization program begun by the Federal Tax Administration throughout the nation.

Federal tax director Max Rodriguez reported that Bogota would have a total of 15 tax collection offices to serve the 400,000 taxpayers living in the capital.

The Tax Administration signed an agreement with the Banco Popular to open up six new collection offices in the Special District.

The federal tax director maintained that this decentralization program would spread throughout the country. Its goal is to simplify the tax process by streamlining procedures and providing better service to the community.

8743
CSO: 3010

CONSTRUCTION AID ACTIVITIES IN ANGOLA REPORTED

Construction Pledges Announced

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 26 Aug 80 p 1

[Article by E.M.]

[Text] The completion of 60 five-story buildings and the rehabilitation of 26 are basic pledges of the internationalist construction brigades working in the beautiful country of Angola in salute to the Second Party Congress and to Construction Workers Day.

This was announced at a press conference held at the SNTC [National Construction Workers Union] headquarters by Ivo Conde, secretary general of the Construction Workers Union in the Cuban Construction Enterprise based in Luanda. Expanding the water distribution plant in Kifandongo is another project of the Cuban workers. This work is being done at the request of President Eduardo Dos Santos by 47 workers from our country and 162 Angolan workers, and it has a significant historical value, since it was there, in 1975, that the victory offensive was carried out against South African intervention.

Four special brigades were formed for the construction of the 60 buildings--which are being built near the central airport. The Assault on Moncada Barracks group, composed of 116 men--who have returned to Cuba--completed 12 of the planned buildings 35 days ahead of schedule.

The Heroes of Bolivia brigade, made up of 241 workers, is trying to achieve a similar goal--12 buildings--by 8 October, date of the fall in combat of the Heroic Guerrilla.

Another group, the Embarkation of the Granma, with 442 construction workers, hopes to complete 23 buildings before 5 December.

The 22d Anniversary group, consisting of 198 members, is located in the Viana area, outside Luanda, and has set 30 November as the deadline for finishing their proposed quota of 13 buildings.

At this time, 95 internationalist construction workers have finished the first stage of the rehabilitation of the area known as "Brazil 1 and 2," and that of the hospital in the capital.

This group pledged to complete the improvement work and to finish 60 buildings. There are 2,431 construction workers in the brother country at present. A 500-student military vocational school is being constructed in Huambo through Cuban-Angolan cooperation.

They are also building the Dalas Dam on the Chimbe River in eastern Angola, and they are already finishing a bridge over the Cutalo River and another in Dusso, in the department of Huambo.

In addition, they are building two water distribution plants in Luanda and a like number in Mulema and Paluca, near the capital.

Brigade Activities, Arrival Home

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 2 Sep 80 p 3

[Article by Edith Martin]

[Text] Several beautiful examples of our country's workers who have completed internationalist missions in other latitudes can be pointed out, among them, the construction workers who have distinguished themselves in the People's Republic of Angola.

The work being done by the men in the white hats in the African region is beginning to transform its geographical landscape and at the same time to give impetus to its economic and social development, started by the Angolan Revolution.

At this time there are 2,431 Cuban internationalist construction workers building bridges, schools and apartment buildings and developing inhospitable areas--all of this without sparing their concern and always with the firm attitude of solidarity which is typical of our people.

Some of the Projects

In Dala, a settlement in eastern Angola, 92 construction workers headed by engineer Andres Diaz of the Cuban Construction Enterprise, are doing the civil engineering work on what will be a hydroelectric complex which will utilize the natural resources of the Chimbe River waterfall.

The complex will supply electric power to the provinces of Moxico and Lunda Sur and in its primary stages will generate some 5,000 kilowatts.

Here the Cuban workers are working chiefly on the entry channel of the complex, on the intake level and on construction of the concrete wall of the spillway, which will be 143.5 meters long.

To construct the wall our workers partially changed the course of the Chimbe, rerouting it to the right bank in order to work from the center toward the left bank.

As part of the project, this brigade will also construct three bridges between the Saurimo and Mocanda regions, one, 38 meters long, on the Chimbe River; one over the Mombo, 72 meters in length; and the third, 84 meters long, over the Lupige River.

Salute to Second Party Congress

Four internationalist construction brigades, bearing glorious names from out fatherland--Assault on Moncada Barracks, Embarkation of the Granma, 22d Anniversary and Heroes of Bolivia--have, since the beginning of 1979, taken upon themselves volunteer work days without pay to complete 60 buildings, each with 5 stories and 20 apartments, as a salute to the Second Party Congress, as well as the rehabilition of 26 such buildings located in areas near the Luanda international airport.

Recently the Assault on Moncada Barracks group, with 116 construction workers, arrived home, the first to complete their task--2 model E-15 and Luanda 1 buildings--which they did 35 days ahead of schedule.

In an emotional farewell ceremony, Rafael Francia Mestre, a member of our party Central Committee and Cuban ambassador in the brother country of Angola, spoke of them, of their attitude toward work, of their self-denial and spirit of sacrifice for the sake of internationalism and of labor discipline.

On this occasion Francia Mestre delivered to the winning brigade its insignia flag, to be given to Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] and a member of the party Central Committee, who, on receiving the banners of the remaining groups--as symbols of duty accomplished--will take them to the Second Party Congress when it begins.

Union Organization in Luanda

Since the struggle for discipline began in our country, basically in the productive sphere, the Construction Workers Union in Luanda has begun the task of applying to the internationalist brigades the connection between labor and output, beginning with the time required for execution of the projects.

"We began the task of linking work to output with a pilot plan in the projects being constructed in the airport area," explained Ivo Conde, secretary general of the SNTC [National Construction Workers Union] in the Cuban Construction Enterprise in Luanda. We saw the results immediately. In the first 5 months of the year, per worker productivity was 941 pesos per month, and production only reached 547,941 pesos.

"After the new form of payment was implemented, productivity rose to 1,642 pesos per month and the value of the product reached 1,239,128 pesos. The quality rose more than 50 percent."

Angola is the first country in which Cuban internationalists are working to apply the labor-output connection to the time required to execute the projects. Previously it was tried out on the worker contracted for 1 or 2 year periods. Now it is done on the basis of the least time utilized in the completion of the buildings.

This experience represented a savings of 1,185 workers needed in October and November of this year to finish the buildings and developments already completed, project goals which were planned for 1981.

The Construction Workers Union in Angola has a committee made up of 13 cadres, 23 union sections in which 151 rank and file leaders work. They hold monthly meetings to check the progress of the projects, anything related to personnel cited for negligence or other reasons and the number of warnings issued.

There is a close relationship between the Cuban workers organization and the Construction and Dwellings Workers Union of the People's Republic of Angola. Their members participate in SNTC activities through interoffice meetings and political, sports and recreational activities.

The Angolan National Workers Union (UNTA) gives a quarterly prize to encourage the Cuban internationalist construction brigade to greater and better successes.

8735
CSO: 3010

COSMONAUT TAMAYO INTERVIEWED ON FLIGHT PREPARATIONS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 18 Sep 80 p 4-5

[Interview with Lt Col Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez by Jacinto Grande]

> [Text] During his past vacation in Cuba, Lt Col Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez met with famous Cuban newsmen to whom he related some of the impressions of his training, his relations with his counterparts and the solidarity encountered at all times in order to make possible this transcendent reality which today, Thursday, 18 September 1980, shakes our fatherland: a Cuban has arrived in outer space. This press conference was also attended by Capt Jose Armando Lopez Falcon, a cosmonaut candidate, who was a member of the two-man team during training for this flight. Here is the conversation with Lt Col Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez.

Newsman: Comrade Tamayo, we would like to learn something about the steps that were taken in picking you as a cosmonaut candidate.

Tamayo: The selection process to make up the detachment of Cuban cosmonaut candidates began first of all with the phase during the party organizations, where an opportunity was provided for all fellow pilots, who are on duty in our glorious Air Force, either in a leadership capacity or in meeting some initial requirements, such as the ability to speak Russian. Another one of the requirements was preferably a university education; if not, they had to be at least high school graduates.

Yet another requirement was being an active pilot in the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], preferably a first-category pilot; if not, they were going to take second-category flying personnel. Quite logically, you had to be in good physical condition and that was also an indispensable requirement. On the basis of these requirements, commissions were set up to evaluate this work on the level of our Air Force unit and at HQ, Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force; taking all this into account, they selected, from among the large number of pilots, the group who met those requirements and each case was evaluated separately.

From this initial phase they went on to the brigade commission and the latter, in turn, sent the application on to the higher commission.

The next step was selection from the medical viewpoint. Each of us, as a career pilot, as a military pilot, has a medical record but during this step they went more directly into the medical examination of the candidates proposed by each air brigade.

Until that moment, nobody knew who was going to make up the preliminary candidate detachment because three groups of pilots were being processed. There were about 50 of us; and from that number, approximately nine comrades had to be chosen.

Our group of nine comrades went to an air unit where we trained from the viewpoint of physical preparation, improving our knowledge of the Russian language, and they also taught us special classes on space travel. The four comrades were then selected by decision of the DAAFAR [Air Defense and Revolutionary Air Force] in keeping with all of the requirements.

We arrived in the Soviet Union in January 1978, approximately on 20 January. We passed the medical checkup--more rigorous than at the Luis Diaz Soto Central Military Hospital--with various different requirements and specialized tests relating to the medical requirements which a candidate for space flight would have to meet.

After that examination, which took about a month over there, in Moscow, we returned. With the results worked out by the Soviet medical commission, the opinions and recommendations forwarded, the DAAFAR then decided on selecting two out of the four comrades and those two were the ones who had to go to study in the USSR under the control of space flight training.

The two of us selected were Capt Jose Armando Lopez Falcon and I.

After a month in Cuba, we returned to the USSR in February to start our studies in March. Our official training thus began on 22 or 23 March 1978. That was the end of the selection phase which was very strict.

Newsman: When they gave the news that you were one of the two cosmonaut candidates, what were your feelings?

Tamayo: This was a moment of such great joy that tears almost came to my eyes. If you are a professional pilot, the fact that you are selected to constitute a detachment of cosmonaut candidates is one of the great aspirations from the professional viewpoint. And then of course it was a moment of considerable joy, considerable happiness, a very moving moment when the commander of the DAAFAR gave the names of the two candidates who were going to take the course at the meeting of that group of preliminary candidates.

Newsman: We would like you to explain to us what your life was like when you were a child, during your early youth, where you were born, what you were doing when Gagarin made his first space flight.

Tamayo: I was born on 29 January 1942. I come from Guantanamo, from the town by that name. I spent my first years of education in a rural school and later on went through the other grades in public school in the city itself. I studied up to the eighth grade, approximately. I was 12 or 13 years old, I was studying and working at the same time, such as shining shoes, selling vegetables and fruits, anything possible just to get along. Later on I began to work in a carpentry shop as apprentice, until the end of 1959, and then I went through the eighth grade.

The FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] minister issued an appeal to all youngsters to join the Youth Labor Columns which initially and later on were called AJR [Rebel Youth Association]; I joined that outfit in March of that year. The call was issued in January 1960 in connection with the birth of Our Lord; they called upon those youngsters who for one reason or another had not been able to finish their studies. I joined the AJR in the city of Guantanamo where I stayed approximately until May or June. Then I had an opportunity to join the 1st Brigade in the Sierra Maestra, I climbed the Cinco Picos, and at the end of December, we went to Pinares de Mayari. Throughout this entire phase in the Sierra Maestra and Pinares de Mayari, our brigades had the mission of building housing, roads, and camps, on top of the physical effort it took to climb those mountain peaks. On the basis of a call that was issued for various courses among the mass of Young Rebels, I went to Mayari in December 1960; here we also had a chance to study technical careers, aviation, diplomacy, and I decided to study technology and in December of that same year I went to Havana and started my studies all over again, adding to my general education at a school of the Rebel Army in Jaimanitas. I stayed there approximately until February 1961. That year we paraded in the Square during the first general rally. I was a member of a company of Young Rebels.

Then the school issued a new appeal because they still needed some comrades to complete the group of those who were supposed to go to the USSR and study aviation; in response to this new call, I decided to pursue a career in aviation and this is how, after the eucalyptus and pine planting drive, in Guane, Pinar del Rio, I was sent to the USSR to study aviation.

The course was rather fast; that was right after the mercenary attack in the Bay of Pigs. We went to the USSR in May with an emerging plan for pilot training; as you know, in the beginning of the revolution, our Air Force was very poor; we had very few aircraft and very few pilots and our plan precisely involved this fast, initial course for rated personnel, technicians, pilots, to beef up our service and to strengthen our FAR.

The course lasted one year; during that year, we flew two types of aircraft in the USSR--a piston aircraft, for basic training, and later a jet.

On returning from the USSR, I was first of all, in May 1962, assigned to the Playa Giron Guards Air Brigade; I stayed there until 1963 when I was sent to a fighter unit in the Central Region. I stayed with that unit until I was selected to join the detachment of preliminary cosmonaut candidates.

At the time of Gagarin's flight, I was planting eucalyptus in Pinar del Rio. I was selected as a member of the group that was going to study flying in the USSR.

Newsman: What did the triumph of the revolution mean to you and your family?

Tamayo: I remember there, in Guantanamo, which was where I was able to experience that moment, with what jubilation and emotion the people received the revolutionary triumph. For me and for my family, as for any poor family at that time, the means of subsistence really were very scarce and the triumph of the revolution for us meant the improvement of our living conditions, it gave me an opportunity personally to pursue my desire for studying because before 1959 I was unable to do so; I was able to study only up to the eighth grade. I always wanted to go on and study more and the triumph of the revolution opened new doors for me; a new perspective of development opened up for me and I really believe that I managed to utilize the opportunity which the revolution gave me.

For my family this also meant shaking off the chains of an old society that kept us shackled and subjected to discrimination.

Newsman: Taking up the problem of the Cosmos, could you give us a general idea of what your activities might have been in outer space, for example, how many orbits around the earth, how many hours could the flight last.

Tamayo: The flight involving composite crews, made up of Soviet citizens and citizens from the socialist camp, is programmed to last approximately 8 days.

During that period of time, plans call for conducting a series of experiments proposed by Cuban and Soviet scientists; as a member of the composite crew, our mission will be to perform activities as pilot-investigator. The pilot-investigator is busy helping the ship's commander and he must also carry out scientific investigations. In other words, he has a twin function: an investigative function involving certain experiments carried out on board and the control function over the work being done in the spaceship.

Newsman: What do you think of the development achieved by the USSR in the field of space science and what could you tell us about your comrades in training as well as your instructors.

Tamayo: You know that, following the first cosmic flight in 1957, over a little more than 20 years, Soviet science and technology has taken truly

gigantic strides, truly phenomenal, ever since the first Sputnik, ever since the first man who flew in space, that is, Yuriy Gagarin, and later on we saw the great advances of Soviet science. The work that was done is truly admirable; the work which is being planned with a view to the exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes, for the employment, by man, of those advantages deriving from cosmic investigation for peaceful purposes. It is really astonishing how Soviet scientists, technicians, and specialists in general are working tirelessly to achieve the objectives which are being set up for peaceful purposes in space research.

Starting with our rival at the Yuriy Gagarin Cosmonaut Center, our training was realy quite active; the minutes and the seconds of our stay there were planned for the sake of the accomplishment of the entire flight program. I must really stress the help and the relations we had with the flight personnel, the Soviet personnel who had flown in space earlier, with personnel who have not yet flown, with the engineers, the doctors, the scientists, the technicians, and the personnel in general. Without that help we would not have been able to achieve the training level we did attain. In other words, in the USSR we received selfless aid, intended to make sure that our flight would be accomplished according to the established program, the Intercosmos Program, and to make sure likewise that our training would be as complete as possible. The instructors spared no time, neither during the day, nor at night, in helping us clear up any doubts we might have had; the engineers, the comrades who are in charge of training, the instructors themselves, including the language teachers, because initially language was a barrier--they all really helped us in learning the Russian language which, as you know, is a rather complicated language. In summary, from language all the way to the most complex activities, we received extraordinary help.

Newsman: What was one day of training like in your life as cosmonaut candidate?

Tamayo: I must begin by saying that no day there seems like any other day; every day brings a rather strong physical and psychological stress; I must tell you that no day seems like the day before because different activities are involved, you study theory and practice, you get physical and medical training; and then of course there are the group and social activities.

Our activities began early in the morning; that of course meant early morning calisthenics. Those exercises were directed by a professor of physical education and involved running, warmup exercises and a series of tasks which enabled the organism to begin to develop optimum condition for the rest of the day's programs.

Then you have breakfast and after that you start the morning's activities. We had two work and study sessions which lasted until 1800. Those 8 hours of activity, during the initial phase of our training, were basically theoretical; there was a certain volume of theory which we had to absorb

so that, when we started our practical training, we would already have an idea of what a spaceship is, what the systems are like, what a linkup is like, what a launch means, and what outer space is. After that general course we pursued theory and practical activities at the same time.

We went to the laboratories and there, with the instructors and engineers, we inspected the spaceship because sometimes you have a theoretical idea of a spaceship, in the classroom, but you have to get confirmation of your knowledge through personal inspection.

Physical training was carried out simultaneously on a preliminary basis three times a week, lasting 2 hours, each time.

Physical training is quite strongly emphasized; we generally did that during the afternoon session. We also engaged in medical activities, such as periodic checkups. Social activities were reserved for the weekend, preferably on Sunday, although when training gets real rough, you have to subordinate recreation to the need for study and that is generally the way it is.

Regardless of the lecture hours designed to give us a deeper knowledge of this new technology, this new line of work, we continued independent study during night-time hours, using the laboratories at the training center, the mockups, the instructors and we did that in our own homes or, since instruction normally ends at 1800, we would continue studying elsewhere, sometimes in preparation for examinations and other teaching activities so that our program extended into the night-time hours.

Newsman: Two questions. First of all, tell us a little more about the training. What did you find most interesting here and how did your life, your experience as a pilot help you in coping with this new task facing you?

Tamayo: In the profession of cosmonaut, you have a series of emotional phenomena which involve great physical tension, which really imply very complex preparation and training; well, among that pile of complex activities, there is always one that stands out and I might say that in my case in particular the most complex one was the initial phase when I realized that my Russian was quite deficient although right now it is good and up to the required level.

Basic scientific instruction was quite tough for me. Right now, with the help of Jose Armando (the Cuban backup cosmonaut) as well as the other comrades and professors, that difficulty was removed. Another problem is the study of the professional aspect, a new technology, a new foundation which exists in space flight, which requires knowledge and calls for basic information. Another question involved the medical tests which are quite strict; these are control and analysis which are recommended by the medical commission, even though there may be no problem whatsoever.

The centrifuge, for example, is a quite tough test which requires resistance from the organism and the latter must respond to the physical overload developing in this device.

Newsman: Talking about the excess stress generated in the centrifuge, do you recall some occasion in Cinco Picos that could be an antecedent for the training you later on got in the USSR.

Tamayo: I believe that I was still quite young at that time, much younger, and I had greater strength from the physical viewpoint. The fact is that Cinco Picos required a tremendous effort on my part. Although, when I went into the Sierra Maestra, from childhood on, I had a certain amount of physical training, if you will, due to my living conditions, I did find myself in a rather tense environment, a rather tough way of life, and this is perhaps why climbing Cinco Picos was not as difficult for me, although these were tough trials requiring good resistance to climb up those various peaks which are on the way, as well as in the course of the various work functions we performed; but in cosmonaut training, the overload stress tests which you get are much more violent. I imagine in this centrifuge test, the maximum overload we received is 8 G; that means that your weight is multiplied eight times and you are practically pressed against your seat; all of the organism's work systems are changed, you pulse rate changes, your cardiovascular system functions differently and you need a good physical foundation to be able to stand up under those tests. We had comrades, for example, who had spent many years in aviation but who nevertheless were not able to pass those tests even though normally, as pilots, they were subjected to high temperatures and changes in pressure.

But these are specialized tests which are performed to find organisms that can really meet the stiff requirements of space flight.

Newsman: The other question deals with your visit to Vietnam during the United States aggression. I would like you to tell us something about that.

Tamayo: I had an opportunity to be selected to make up a military delegation from our FAR which visited the RDV [Democratic Republic of Vietnam] in March 1967. The purpose of that delegation was to exchange, with Vietnamese military personnel, our experiences in the management and development of modern technology and tactics in the fight against enemy aviation, in this case, United States aircraft. Our experiences were much less than theirs since they had for many years been involved in this task of defending their fatherland. For our part, the experience we had to offer was what little we had: however, we got a large amount of experience from them in the fight against United States aircraft which were indiscriminately bombing Vietnam, with the subsequent devastation of resources and buildings, including even the indescriminate bombing of the civilian population in villages, residential sections, even the capital of Hanoi. For those of us in this group, this was realy a very great experience which helped us much in our training as military personnel, as aviation specialists. Besides, we had

an opportunity to see how the population responded to this cruel aggression in the north as well as against the intervention by American troops in the south, how the people fought shoulder to shoulder, tenaciously, to eliminate United States aggression; we saw the heroism of that people because we were able to see acts of impressive heroism.

Newsman: We would like to know more about you individually, as a cosmonaut; we would like to know whether you are married or single, whether you have children, in other words, we would like to know you personally, as cosmonaut.

Tamayo: I can tell you that I have been married since 1967, I have two boys, one going on 11 and the other one going on 10, in other words, they are about 16 months apart. The older has the same name as I, the mother's name, and the younger one is called Orlando. I kept my matrimonial relations within normal conditions and I really received great help from my wife, both as pilot in the FAR and in my new task of preparing myself for space flight. She was really a big help and she was one of the persons who assisted me much. She constantly watched over my training.

Newsman: The cosmonauts are getting training so that they may work in outer space but logically they must get some training so that they can rest out there. I would like you to tell us a little bit about training for sleeping because I imagine that, in a space ship, things are not as comfortable as when it comes to sleeping as they are here on earth.

Tamayo: This really is an answer which in practice you get during flight itself because the state of weightlessness is very difficult to simulate on earth. There are reports on that, there are assumptions, there are the stories told by comrades who have flown and they all tell us how the organism performed in a state of weightlessness. You know that there is mass in a state of weightlessness but no weight. The systems and the normal functions of the organism are changed. This kind of training you cannot get in practice on the ground because the conditions of weightlessness do not exist; but you do get instructions which you have to follow in order to perform the act of sleeping, in other words, how to get into a kind of bag so as not to be floating around because otherwise you would be floating all over the inside of the spaceship. The training we got in reality which respect to that is rather more theoretical and you have to experiment with the practical aspect during the flight itself. These are interesting things; you are accustomed to sleeping in a bed, with a matress and some people use pillows; besides, a spaceship would have to be quite big if we were to fit in those things which we are accustomed to having on the ground; in the beginning, this adaptation is quite uncomfortable but after several days of flight you manage to settle down and sleep, according to the experience of the other Soviet comrades.

Newsman: Could you tell us something about the experiments which you are going to perform during the joint Cuban-Soviet flight as part of the Intercosmos Program?

Tamayo: Our Academy of Sciences is directing the scientific work involved in the experiments which are going to be conducted during our flight or during other subsequent flights to be made. There is a series of studies which are to be conducted from the viewpoint of medical and general research.

As part of them, it is very important to explore the natural resources of the earth which can be used or which can be discovered by our personnel, along with the observation of areas adjacent to ours, their fishing regions. We also are planning and we already have taken some photographs for the purpose of studying our relief, the structural formation of our territory, and our adjacent waters.

Newsman: Getting back to the training, we would like to know something about the diet you get. I would like you to tell us something about that.

Tamayo: Regarding the diet which we are going to take along during the flight, they first of all gave us a general overview of the consumption required during the state of weightlessness. During the training process itself, we consume those food items for one week. The basic objective was for us to get used to those foods which certainly are different from what we are accustomed to eating. These are foods which are in small cans, tubes, or under a system which is called sublimation, which involves completely dehydrated food and which does not lose its flavor. Once we are out in space, the only thing the pilot has to do with that food in the spaceship is to activate it with water and this is how you eat.

During that week we consumed all of the food items in order to check them out and so that we might give our opinions from the taste viewpoint because it has been found that everybody has a different palate; some people like soup and others like stew or various kinds of meat; during that week we consumed those food items in order to measure them; and then they prepared a menu which each and everyone of us requested for the flight, in other words, we got the menu which we were going to take along on the flight.

Newsman: And what menu did you pick for the flight?

Tamayo: The breakfast which I picked, for example, included coffee with cream, bread, meat in a tube with seasoning. For lunch, I started off with soup, Russian soup, in this particular case I recall that it was borshch, a very flavorful soup with much seasoning; my second course included puree with meat, bread, and for desert I had picked a fruit bar. I proposed various dishes in the dining room; it is difficult to remember just exactly what I proposed on the various days but I basically suggested meats since soup is the first course for lunch. And for afternoon snacks I mostly wanted sweets.

Newsman: What importance do you assign to the Intercosmos Program?

Tamayo: The Intercosmos Program has opened up vast prospects of scientific investigation on outer space for the socialist community, headed by the USSR.

Before the creation of this program, which is being carried out by the socialist countries together, there had been no other possibility of investigation. Just imagine Cuba, with its scarce resources, with a scientific level that is certainly not up to the levels of the European countries, for Cuba it was practically impossible to perform experiments in outer space and even less so to send a Cuban citizen to conduct research during space flight. The creation of this program in the USSR was truly a gesture of collaboration among our socialist countries, of brotherhood among our scientists and peoples. And the fundamental aspect is that the USSR has managed to internationalize outer space in order to achieve greater results in research and exploration which are currently being carried out. The Intercosmos Program provides possibilities for our countries to be able to investigate and to make contributions to world science from the results of studies on cosmic space.

Newsman: What are your impressions of the group at Star City and what factor do you consider permits that international spirit of union where the national character of the participants is preserved?

Tamayo: It is really a very beautiful spectacle to see how the representatives of the the various nationalities, independently of the geographic location, maintain profoundly brotherly human and revolutionary relations. This is understandable because above all there, among the comrades who are training, there is a strong desire for help and profoundly brotherly human and revolutionary relations are being maintained and there was really strong cohesion in terms of work and study. It is an impressive thing to achieve that. Of course, during the training program, under the direction of the Space Flight Training Center, we did perform certain activities which sometimes are individual whereas at other times they are group activities; and these basic experiences are obtained in the group activities which we engaged in, with the Soviets and with the other representatives of the socialist countries; here you find manifested this kind of cohesion in our work as a part of the training effort.

An example of this cohesion is that, for the first time in history, Soviet communists and communists from eight countries who are in the training phase now are getting together in a party aktiv. Here we are developing a kind of aktiv prior to the launch and indeed everybody speaks out as a communist about the training of the other comrade who is going to fly but who was not of his nationality. This gives you an indication as to how we achieve work cohesion there among all nationalities.

Newsman: Getting back to the aspect of brotherhood and comradeship and noting that your cosmonaut teammate Capt Jose Armando Lopez Falcon is also here, we would like Lieutenant Colonel Tamayo to give us his impression about the other Cuban cosmonaut candidate.

Tamayo: About Jose Armando, first of all, I must tell you that we have known each other for a long time, much longer than our joint training. He is a jovial fellow, a good companion, a revolutionary, and I believe I must say that, during the pre-flight phase, both in his training and mine, he has always played a very fundamental role as far as I am concerned by virtue of his training, because he is intelligent, because he is younger, more dynamic, and really we managed to create a strong working group, a working group where there is no individualism; a group where our basic principle is the fact that a Cuban citizen is going out into space, be it he or I. On the basis of that principle we helped each other and in the training we got, in the general training and in all activities, Jose Armando was fundamental. In other words, we created a team on the basis of the principle that one of us two is going to have to fly and we must help each other, without letting either one of us make mistakes which the other one could help correct. During the stiff theoretical training phase, the phase I talked to you about, during the Russian-language training phase, we reviewed the materials together late into the night.

Newsman: We think that Capt Jose Armando Lopez has the right to reply and we ask him briefly to express his opinion on his comrade, Lieutenant Colonel Tamayo.

Lopez Falcon: As Tamayo said, we have known each other for quite some time, even before this process of preparation for the Intercosmos Program. When we met in Cuba as pilots, I was his subordinate, in other words, he was my boss there, and he continued to be my boss here, and I believe that he is going to be my boss for a long time. Relations with the comrade lieutenant colonel always were excellent, he is a comrade who is very easy to have access to. For any younger comrade, such as me, in this case, because, when I joined the FAR, I had no experience, I was not an experienced pilot, whereas he was, I had much confidence in him, because of his personal abilities, not only because of his achievements as a pilot and as an officer but also because of his personal characteristics, as a comrade, as a brother, as a friend. In any activity, within this training phase under the Intercosmos Program, we worked closely together and he helped me and I helped him in some parts but in other parts we went more or less half-and-half, although I also received help from him, not only from the specifically technical viewpoint but also some basic aspects, the problem of staying calm, of evaluating the most difficult situations, of grasping the most important directions; together with him we always formed a team in which our mission always was to be ready in the best possible way, without sparing any effort. This common objective and these relations likewise are the things that enabled us to overcome all difficulties and solve all problems which we had in taking on the unique objective of making this flight a success.

Newsman: I believe that I summarize the feeling of all comrades when I say that this has been an example of human solidarity, of friendship among two Cuban cosmonaut candidates. But now I would like to direct a specific question to Lieutenant Colonel Tamayo. We would like to know something

about an aspect which you have not yet covered, your spare time, your preferences, your books, and whether you were free to take some specific books out into space, as other comrade cosmonauts have done before, and we would also like you to tell us about what you did not have in the way of free time.

Tamayo: Over there, free time is rather short; recreation activities thus are programmed within that context so that you practically have very little time left for this sort of thing; and what little spare time you have, you must use in studying. This is why it is difficult to answer what I was doing during my time off. But there is always some little thing there that you can do by way of personal activities; I can tell you that, during that short free time, usually on weekend, I preferred, for example, to read some books. When I had a little more time in Cuba, I liked to dance and to go to parties. In the USSR there is of course singing and you can also dance because the Soviets very much like to dance; sometimes we spent our free time in this way. We also engaged in our own family activities, we visited each other, and we had to give some of our time to the boys. We went to Moscow, we saw some museums and some movies, we went for walks, we visited some historical sites and that is how we spent that spare time.

As for taking books on the mission, as part of our objectives, we had some historical documents. We took along a very much reduced version of "La historia me absolvera," as well as the Program Platform of our Party and the Montecristi Manifesto. These are three documents which we are going to take on board. Of course, any other type of literature is quite limited because it goes against the weight limit. The weight is programmed in terms of so many kilograms per activities of this type; and once you have reached the weight limit, it is very difficult to add anything else. We picked those three documents as a form of historical demonstration; they undoubtedly helped us perform a fundamental role so that a Cuban citizen might be able to travel to outer space and they are basic documents for our political ideology and our party.

Newsman: After a trip into outer space, what will a journey to your hometown, Guantanamo, be like?

Tamayo: I have some very intimate memories of my hometown. Especially during the hard times. It will be a very emotional thing, if the flight comes off successfully, because I will once again meet the people of Guantanamo.

Newsman: There has been talk of Cuba, of the first cosmonaut of Latin America. How could you come to be the carrier of the Latin American ideal and in a certain sense, through this journey, could you also move Latin America closer to outer space?

Tamayo: I believe that we must place this success, this great event, in a broader context, in this case, the context of the peoples of Latin America,

since Cuba is a part of the peoples making up Latin America, since Cuba a little more than 20 years ago lived in the same circumstances, the same characteristics as we find among all Latin American peoples. For Latin America this will also be an extremely important event which demonstrates the possibility of sending a Latin American citizen out into space. It opens the doors for Latin America and it shows that only through profound socialist scientific collaboration, such as the one which we are implementing with the rest of the countries of the socialist community, especially with the USSR, we can achieve this exploit. This is why this will not only be a success for Cuba but for the peoples of Latin America who will also view this as a success of theirs.

Newsman: Now all that remains for us to do is to wish you, Comrade Tamayo, success and a happy journey to outer space.

5058
CSO:3010

MACHADO VENTURA CLOSES NATIONAL SEMINAR ON SUGARCANE

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 10 Sep 80 p 2

[Speech by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, at closing session of the Fifth National Sugarcane Information and Propaganda Seminar, held in Holguin on 8-9 September 1980]

[Text] Comrades:

As we have every year, we have again followed with great interest this National Sugarcane Propaganda and Information Seminar, which on this occasion has as its scenario one of the country's leading sugarcane producing provinces. The event has gradually grown in quality and depth. This can be seen both in its organization and in the content of the subjects analyzed and discussed, subjects that have laid the groundwork for taking up tasks of dissemination relating to the current sugarcane season.

Since sugarcane propaganda involves the country's major economic activity, it constitutes a sphere of vital importance in ideological work requiring systematic, priority attention from the party, the UJC [Union of Young Communists], the trade unions, state offices and other elements, especially when the circumstances in which we shall have to complete the current harvest compel us to mobilize all our forces and make the necessary efforts, both in industry as well as in agriculture, so as to obtain an optimum harvest responding to the country's needs.

Sugarcane is our country's most important economic activity every year. It is a task whose success depends on many factors involving organization, leadership, discipline, responsibility and the enthusiasm of the people who participate in it, and on the degree of exigency, auditing and control exercised by cadres and organizations in charge of the task, all under the leadership of our party and convinced that its successful completion will determine to a great extent the future economic and social progress of the country.

For that reason, we believe it is very useful to speak to you about certain considerations relating to preparations for the current sugarcane harvest and other tasks of which, because of their importance, you should be aware in order to carry on your propaganda work.

In the current phase, there are certain tasks of vital importance to sugarcane growing and to the sugarcane industry.

In order to check the negative effects of rust, an enormous effort was made when the cane was planted during the first 6 months, which made it possible to complete the plan we outlined for that phase. At the same time, we waged a gigantic sugarcane cleanup campaign in response to the appeal made by Comrade Fidel. The massive mobilization of hundreds of thousands of men and women throughout the country made it possible to clear 154,680 caballerias [1 caballeria = 33.2 acres] by the end of August, 75,000 more than during the same period in 1979. With the current rainfall, this should mean a better yield than originally predicted. Despite this achievement, we must point out that there are still places with weedy fields and that some weeding operations were completed late.

Nevertheless, we must use our experience to see what it is possible to do when the masses, motivated by such a need, give a categorical response to the call of Fidel and the party and in an organized fashion, face the battle and emerge victorious. We must emphasize that all the mass organizations participated in this production success and propaganda played a role in mobilizing the people.

Looking to the next harvest, we must guarantee the repair of farm equipment used in the harvest: the combines, loading machinery, lifts and other equipment, and we must ensure the repair and maintenance of sugarcane roads.

In the industrial sector, efforts are directed toward investments and expansions, the setting up of new collection centers, the overhauling and repair of railroad equipment and track and repairs in industry itself.

We wish to emphasize, in this connection, that on the negative side of the ledger, we still have organizational and material and technical supply problems to which we must continue to give all the attention required so that agriculture and industry will complete their repairs by the dates set and with the quality making it possible to complete the harvest under better conditions than last year.

In addition to these activities, a sustained effort has been made to complete the cold-weather planting plan for this phase. However, one must point out that there are some delays, especially in the provinces of Sancti Spiritus, Ciego de Avila, Pinar del Rio, Camaguey, Havana, Granma, Villa Clara and Las Tunas, which must double their efforts in ground preparation and planting, thereby avoiding the last-minute marathons that hurt quality.

Simultaneously with these tasks, work is being done on organizing the next sugarcane season. This takes on special importance since the strategy that will be followed is that all mills will begin on the set date and from the very beginning, will mill at maximum capacity. In order to do so, it is indispensable that the cutting, hauling and loading be done with the

required objectivity, permitting an uninterrupted supply of raw material to industry. We hope to complete this harvest efficiently and process all cane that can be milled.

In order to guarantee compliance with this goal, it is necessary that technicians, specialists and cadres in sugarcane agriculture make objective estimates of cane, including all millable cane and avoiding by all means any significant deviation, due to poor estimates, in the amount of cane to be milled. This would have the negative effect of disrupting the entire sugarcane program. In addition to this, we must work on an optimum cutting program in order to mill the cane when it has reached peak maturity.

This important aspect which we have underlined is part of the strategy of completing the harvest early and on the scheduled dates in order to be able to concentrate all human and technical efforts freed from the harvest on the spring planning and clearing operations.

Comrades:

In speaking about measures being adopted for the coming harvest, we believe it is necessary to dwell on a subjective factor of great importance, which fundamentally depends on the leadership cadres which at the different levels are responsible for planning, execution and control. We are talking about the organization of the harvest.

On many occasions, our press, the communications media and our people speak of the sugarcane harvest, referring to it as a great battle. Indeed, I believe that no term could be more accurate to describe the combination of activities, tasks and efforts being made to complete this operation.

In order to have an idea of what this means, it is enough to say that participating in the harvest are over 350,000 men who throughout our country make it possible. These men have different responsibilities and jobs, from the cutters and combine operators to those who load and haul the cane, those who work in receiving centers, those who haul it to the mills and those who then turn it into sugar, after which our vital product goes to the shipping zones for export.

It is impressive to see the number of links in this productive chain, the quantity of factors the intervene in the different phases of the process. It is truly a complex activity to organize this battle in which, in addition to the men, are thousands of machines: tractors, combines, lifts, trucks, hundreds of locomotives and thousands of railroad cars, in short, an immense ensemble of men and machinery that move in unison like the gears of an enormous machine.

This ensemble of men and machines has to be united by a single plan in which the task which every worker participating in the harvest must be clearly outlined. In addition, systematic control and daily standards are required.

The responsibility for drawing up the plan, carrying it out and enforcing compliance has been given to the Ministry of the Sugar Industry, its provincial delegates and its cane and sugar enterprises. They receive the valuable support of the Workers Movement, ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers], the EJT [Youth Labor Army], the UJC, the FMC [Federation of Cuban Women] and the CDR's [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], all under the guidance and leadership of our party.

The Sugarcane Union must play a valuable and decisive role in this great production task. October is the month of the Sugarcane Union Congress, which brings cane workers together with mill workers under the banners of the Jesus Menendez Union, which achieved so many victories in the fight against imperialism and capitalist exploitation. We repeat that because of the importance of this task, the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] and the party must lend all the required attention so that this union will emerge at maximum strength to face the great tasks it has ahead.

That is why I wish to emphasize that propaganda must first of all be directed toward the correct planning of the sugarcane harvest and then toward ensuring that every worker, leader, technician, and so on, completes the task assigned to him.

Concerning organizational measures, I should like to dwell on a number of particular aspects.

During this phase, the workers movement, the administration and the party are working on the selection of cutters to participate in the next harvest. I believe it is a fitting time to express certain important considerations. We must follow the principle that our comrades who go to work in the harvest at the different work centers, mobilized as volunteers by the CTC and its unions, must truly be the most productive men from each place. The results of previous harvests must be taken into account, as well as commitments to the current harvest. Those picked must be the most disciplined comrades and in general, those who contribute the most to the harvest.

It is very important that in the heat of the assemblies held to pick the cutters, the unions must take their organization into brigades into account. It is also indispensable to talk with workers about the forms of payment applied for the harvest, explaining in detail these aspects so that the workers choose the type they prefer.

Even now, new forms of payment are being analyzed to stimulate this activity economically, thereby ensuring the success of the entire process.

Another aspect to bear in mind in the system of rest for the men. It is necessary to remember two important factors, first of all, that the men participating in the harvest must rest in an organized fashion and second, that the harvest is an uninterrupted process demanding the volumes of cane planned for delivery every day. We must not view these factors as negative

but rather, as necessary elements of the same process. For example, one can observe that the inadequate planning of rest for the men causes drops in milling at the beginning and end of the week because of an insufficient supply of cane. This situation must be resolved in an intelligent and organized fashion. That is why, at meetings with brigades, leaders of the workers movement should discuss this with cutters so that their leaves do not interrupt the supply of cane to the mills. During the past harvest, some provinces took measures to spread out the rest periods of cutters and thereby obtained positive results in stabilizing the delivery of cane daily.

Propaganda has a great responsibility here since it is necessary to change deep-rooted habits of workers in agriculture, who customarily rest on weekends.

Another important aspect we wish to emphasize has to do with the millionaire movement. In his report to our party's First Congress, Comrade Fidel said that it was "one of the fundamental pillars of our battle for productivity and our fight to reduce the amount of labor required for the harvest to a minimum, while advancing toward complete mechanization of cane cutting."

Without a doubt, the Millionaire Movement has become the most productive and organized form of manual cane cutting. It is enough to point out that the men in the Millionaire Movement have higher productivity than the rest of the cutting crews not in the movement. On the average, the amount of cane cut for every "millionaire" is two and one-half times that cut by other cutters.

And yet, we must say that we still have a long way to go here. During the past sugar harvest, some 130,000 men from all labor sectors participated: from the CTC, regular workers, ANAP, the EJT, and of these, only 41 percent, 52,995 men, won the millionaire prize. For these reasons, it is indispensable for the party to devote special attention to these forces during this phase, to discussion with cutters in order to bring them into this honorable millionaire movement and help them achieve the objective during the sugar harvest. This task requires greater support and dissemination by our press and the communications media, which helps create greater awareness of the country's need to save on human resources.

I also believe that specialists must see why all propaganda is aimed at emphasizing the achievements of the millionaire brigades but without directing propaganda toward the goal of incorporating more cutters into the movement and toward emphasizing the causes keeping them from it.

In my judgment, the low membership in the Millionaire Movement is due to organizational deficiencies and to poor ideological work.

One topic deserving of special attention has to do with socialist emulation during the harvest period. There is no satisfactory explanation of why there is weak work regarding the harvest emulation when there is a mechanism set up and when it has been in place for years. The crux of the problem

seems to be the lack of organization, the little supervision, the absence of individual and collective commitments, deficiencies in the inspection of results and the late awarding of incentives to winners -- sometimes they did not even receive them -- and the need to improve the plan of incentives now followed. There is also insufficient support and attention from the party, the government, trade unions and other organizations connected with this activity. Sometimes there is not enough information.

In my opinion, emulation should be an objective reflection of the results of work. Our harvests have suffered from serious organizational problems and we therefore believe that this factor has had a negative effect on emulation.

A recent survey among cane workers showed that when asked if they were involved in emulation, negative responses were received from 32 percent of the cutters and manual workers, 44 percent of loading operators connected with manual cutting and 42 percent of mechanized lift workers. We believe that these data are eloquent and show that it is necessary to give a vigorous boost to this vital activity, breaking with traditional schemes and molds of work and bringing about a radical change in this situation.

We have spoken of certain tasks and activities in which we are now engaged and of others that we shall soon take up.

Within this context is the Study and Application of Wage Reform in Industry and Agriculture, along with new forms of economic incentives through the payment of bonuses in these activities.

The consistent and timely application of these new forms of payment are set forth in the Economic Guidelines that will be analyzed at the Second Congress of our party.

We must prepare ourselves to disseminate economic measures adopted to all workers in this sector. It will be necessary, in connection with these important measures, to do far-reaching political work by the party, trade unions, the UJC and the government, reaching all sugar workers so that no matter what decisions are adopted on wage increases, there must be improvements in discipline at work, efficiency and productivity and these questions must complement each other.

Comrade propaganda workers:

We have described to you briefly the projection of work in this phase in sugarcane harvest activities so that you may have all the elements you need for your work. We should now like to emphasize certain ideas about how we should disseminate these ideas and how we can emphasize certain problems in particular through propaganda.

Sugarcane harvest propaganda must not be limited to the time of the harvest only. Rather, it must take in all phases of the agroindustrial process and take into consideration the many interrelated elements in every phase.

In future work, we must remember that already for 1981, over 45 percent of the cutting will be done by machine. This demands a great effort on the part of all administrative organizations responsible for this task in order to guarantee optimum conditions in preparing areas that can be handled with machines, creating procedures making it possible to train and retrain personnel in charge of operating, maintaining and repairing this costly equipment.

At the same time, we must ensure a supply of spare parts and the materials needed to maintain and repair combines so as to keep all stock ready and avoid the loss of time because of breakdowns that sometimes last longer than is reasonable. We must see that workshops that build and rebuild spare parts have the materials, equipment, tools and technical means needed for their work and that they overcome organizational deficiencies that have considerable influence of the output of equipment. Consequently, propaganda must be aimed at ensuring that the men who perform these tasks are aware of the need to comply with established norms for mechanized cutting, and the government must be very strict in order to achieve good results.

Along with mechanization, there are plans to expand irrigated areas, another of the fundamental programs being carried out, based on the need to overcome the imponderables stemming from the great fluctuations in rainfall characterizing our country.

However, the importance and scope of the application of techniques to our sugarcane agriculture are not properly reflected in our work of dissemination. Above all, local means and resources are not sufficiently used and not enough attention is paid to the development of activism and direct propaganda.

Without a doubt, the need to develop increased productivity and improved efficiency in production and to achieve optimum results in management cannot be resolved simply through propaganda; on this we all agree. But no one can deny that the production propagandist and especially the sugarcane propagandist can, once aware of each and every problem, help to localize them and isolate them, whether in the mill, at the center of collection, the transport base or the area where the cutters live and work together. then create conditions for their solution. This can only be achieved when the propagandist is closely linked to the men to whom his message is directed so that it will be materialized in concrete actions, expressed in convictions that lead to the maximum contribution with full awareness of the importance of the contribution to the national economy.

The press has an important role to play in this effort, especially with respect to information, an objective analysis of the progress of sugarcane work and an objective and critical examination of deficiencies, which is an economic, political and social imperative. We are now on the right path.

We believe that information on the sugarcane crop is quite satisfactory in our written press. It meets its commitment and helps create a harvest atmosphere throughout the country. This is good, comrades. We hope that further work will be done along these same lines.

Regarding the need to disseminate the policy of encouraging sugarcane workers, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that that policy must be directed to the proper place and in the proper manner. Many of you are aware that propaganda has not always been adequately directed and that on occasion, what has been viewed as a labor feat or something outstanding has not always had a favorable result for production and the economy as a whole. On occasion, partial production results, the results of a day or a short period of time, have been praised. This has sometimes caused us to evaluate results subjectively and to form a good idea of something that actually is not going well. We must emphasize the feats of our cutters and operators, just as of those who mill the sugar and perform the rest of the activities of the sugarcane harvest, but always on the basis of not merely pointing up the exceptional achievements of one day, but the daily effort which in the long run is what provides a solid support for the economy and the nation.

We want to repeat the concept that sugarcane propaganda must stress to collectives and workers the fact that they must complete the tasks planned in each link of this important process on a stable, daily basis.

We must continue to put out sugarcane propaganda throughout the year and in an intelligent manner, see that it responds to the requirements of each phase. In this sense, it is fitting to reiterate that for every phase, we must use adequate means and suitable language, ensuring the necessary cover during planting, weeding, harvesting, the industrial process and export.

This is a requirement for all of us who in one way or another are involved in the task and the sugarcane agroindustrial process, trying to create a suitable atmosphere in the country in order to face this work with the enthusiasm, fighting spirit and responsibility it implies.

The sugarcane crop is a mass activity and as such, propaganda must play its role as an element to mobilize the masses, a vehicle to spread the best experience and incentives for workers participating in it. They are subject to the work of propaganda and agitation since it is they who must see themselves reflected in the propaganda aimed at them so that they can feel that they are what they truly are: protagonists in the national undertaking which every sugarcane harvest signifies.

As the years have gone by, substantial changes have taken place in the thinking of sugarcane farm workers. Many of those who were cutters years ago have now been promoted and efficiently operate combines. It is obvious that propaganda must be adapted to these changes taking place in the men and adopt new forms and content. The message reaching every man must be in

harmony with the work he does. It must be clear and direct and take up the very questions in which the worker is involved. That is why we insist that sugarcane propaganda must be characterized by a high level of specialization and be perfectly suited to the different problems and areas.

We cannot lose sight of the fact that the level of development of our society demands work that is more lasting, well-thought-out and not improvised. Our propaganda must also be that way in order to inspire men to achieve results corresponding to the progress of our process.

In the Proposed Economic and Social Guidelines for the 1981-1985 Period, which were recently discussed in the country and submitted for the approval of the Second Congress of the party, the need to improve yield to 70,000 or 80,000 arrobas [1 arroba = 25 pounds] per caballeria and to 90,000 arrobas in some provinces is expressed. We must also increase the capacity of the sugar industry. These are measures aimed at the objective of producing between 10 and 10.5 million tons of sugar by 1985.

These aspirations will only become a reality if we start now to lay the objective, concrete foundations both in agriculture and industry. Once the cement has been poured, we need but the proper attitude, systematic demands, rigorous control and the anticipation of every step to be taken to guarantee high and stable yields, quality in sugar, savings on raw materials and other factors that mean greater efficiency in production.

Comrades:

We have taken the opportunity provided by this meeting to speak about a whole series of general problems in which propaganda work can play an important role. We must continue to pay proper attention to the adaptation of the sugarcane propaganda campaign in rank-and-file party organizations and its related organizations, in keeping with the specific characteristics of the work of each one. This is a task of extreme importance because it will determine whether we can truly take up the problems emerging in practice, fight difficulties, emphasize successes and properly support this fundamental economic management.

I believe it is valid to emphasize the meritorious work done in relation to the need to maintain and improve the quality of sugar and recently, of cleaning operations.

At this seminar, there has been discussion of several experiments of the UJC, the Youth Labor Army and mass organizations and it is our opinion that the discussions have been beneficial because they have emphasized the ever closer ties of these organizations to sugarcane propaganda and agitation tasks.

Concerning means of dissemination, it is worthwhile to emphasize the need to step up efforts, improve organization, so as to make a positive contribution to victory in this battle, based on established schedules and with improved

quality. That is why, from this moment forward, we must think about how in every area we can support the sugarcane harvests of the coming years, which are essential to the future development of the national economy.

We wish to remind you that the coming harvest will begin days before the holding of the Second Congress of our party, meaning that the beginning of cutting, milling at the plants, and so on, must constitute a summons and a commitment of workers to achieve an optimum harvest in the year of the Second Congress.

We are completely sure that in this approaching battle of our economy, the 1981 season, every individual will do his duty. An honorable task awaits all those of you who have the responsibility of reporting to all our people on the results of the harvest, to the workers, party organizations, the UJC, the trade unions, ANAP, the EJT, the government and other organizations connected with the harvest. We are fully confident that the results will reward the efforts, dedication and revolutionary passion with which our people respond to every task which the party and Fidel place in their hands.

Thank you.

11,464
CSO: 3010

RISQUET CLOSES PORTWORKERS NATIONAL MEETING

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 16 Sep 80 p 2

[Speech by Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet in Havana on 11 September 1980 delivered at a meeting of union leaders and port enterprise managers; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface or caps]

[Text] At the end of May when the issue of the situation the ports will be facing during the next few months was raised in the Political Bureau, there really existed a serious threat to the national economy.

On the one hand, June was to begin with 540,000 tons of immobilized merchandise afloat and 248,000 in warehouses and port yards.

During these 3 months of port emergency, cargoes amounting to about 2,044 million tons arrived. The unloading plan for these 3 months covered 1.792 million tons.

This means that arrivals exceeded the unloading plan by 252,000 tons, a figure which was to rise to 540,000 by 1 June. If we had worked as usual, keeping up with the plan, we would now, on 1 September, have had no less than 792,000 tons afloat and over /a million/ tons immobilized between ships and ports.

This would have had a disastrous effect on the economy. On the one hand, it would have meant the expenditure of an estimated 46 million pesos in demurrage costs from June to December.

Secondly, immobilization of the Cuban fleet, the fleet leased by CUFLET [Cuban Freight Enterprise] and the Soviet fleet would have forced us to charter more ships to carry the merchandise acquired during the year at the time of a big jump in freight rates, an increase that would have been even bigger if Cuba were to appear on the market with such a big demand for charter services.

Thirdly, such a large volume of merchandise immobilized in the ports would impose heavy financial burdens on industry, agriculture, construction and

transport, leading to shortages of raw materials, equipment, accessories, fertilizers and complete installations necessary for the execution of production plans.

And it would also have inflicted shortages on the people, who would have needed the food and other consumer items tied up in the ports.

The fact that this posed a grave danger to the economy, one that had to be quickly and energetically averted, did not escape the notice of our party leadership.

Comrade Fidel directed the party to explain the situation to the workers and take all the steps necessary to set in motion an urgent and vigorous mobilization of all workers involved in the port-transport-national economy chain. And he instructed the government to study and immediately implement a whole series of measures designed to provide the necessary material resources.

The response of the workers was enormous. During those 3 months, 2,217,900 tons were unloaded from ships in port, transported and deposited in national economy warehouses. That is, the plan schedule was exceeded by 23.7 percent. In comparison with the same quarter last year, the increase amounted to 40.6 percent.

This was the achievement of the port workers, who belong to the Mambisa Terminals Enterprises Union and the grain and mining terminals. It was the work of the truck and rail transport workers as well as of MITRANS [Ministry of Transport] enterprises and other state organizations. It was the work of the national economy warehouse workers. And it was the work of many thousands of other workers who volunteered their efforts to achieve this labor victory.

Now what is the situation at the start of this September?

At the beginning of the month, we had 367,000 tons afloat. Anticipated arrivals amount to less than 600,000 tons. We should be unloading 700,000 and, in so doing, reduce the amount afloat to about 250,000 tons, a figure which may be considered normal for maintaining an unloading volume of 700,000 tons a month and not having to pay demurrage charges.

If we work hard in September — and that involves unloading 700,000 tons and getting a larger figure out of port operations — we will be facing a normal situation in the ports. Arrivals anticipated during the last quarter of the year will not exceed 2 million tons. So, maintaining the cumulative average of 700,000 tons a month, or 4.9 million tons from June to December, will permit us to normalize the situation and maintain a stable production flow in the ports throughout the whole chain of operations.

If we succeed in doing this, as early as October we will have achieved a positive balance in terms of demurrage and prompt shipments. During the 3 months in question we paid out 7 million pesos in demurrage charges. If we work hard during the rest of the year, by the end of the year that figure should be less than 10 million for June through December. That is, what was estimated to come to 46 million should not amount to 10 million. The 30 odd million thus saved will be thanks to you, the port and chain-of-delivery workers.

This will enable us to begin 1981, the first year of the next 5-year plan, with less than 250,000 tons afloat and less than 150 million tons in transit through the ports.

In 1981 the average monthly volume of goods that have to be unloaded will come to about 750,000 tons since, according to preliminary figures, the national economy should be receiving about 9 million tons of dry cargo during the year.

It is now up to us to consolidate this victory. In concrete terms, consolidating the victory means unloading, without demurrage charges, an average 750,000 tons a month, transporting them and depositing them in national economy warehouses during the coming year.

Next year we can count on more equipment, spare-part and accessory resources than we had this year, in the ports as well as in cargo transport and the receiving centers. New national economy port installations, cold-storage plants and warehouses will be completed by construction enterprises. There are still numerous organizational reserves to be utilized. There is every reason to believe that we can continue to cut down the cost in pesos, maintain the increase in productivity regardless of the average wage, increase our profits and create bonus funds.

The key to port-transport-national economy chain efficiency lies in organizing the flow of cargo as a /constant activity/.

Activity in the ports, the cargo-transport sector and the receiving centers /is constant: day and night, from Monday through Sunday/.

The as yet partial application of this elementary truth is what has made it possible to increase our volume of unloading and transport of imported goods by 23.7 percent over that called for in the plan, by 24.6 percent over that achieved during the first 5 months and by 40.6 percent over that of the same quarter last year.

The chief task consists of the general application of this principle.

In the ports, we have to set up night shifts and Sunday as a workday for as long as there is cargo to be handled.

Truck and rail cargo-transport equipment must roll 24 hours a day every day. Maintenance and repair shops for this equipment must meet the challenge of this constant flow. In the national economy warehouses, we must organize personnel so that cargo is immediately unloaded as soon as it arrives.

Of course, this neither can nor should mean that workers in this chain of delivery have to give up their weekly day of rest. We must organize a labor turnover system. In some cases, we will have to increase the number of workers. In others, elimination of the time lost waiting for the arrival of carriers or waiting to load or unload cargo will increase productivity and additional personnel will not be necessary. In still others, especially in national economy warehouses, whenever necessary personnel may be hired whose wages will be based on standard wage scales.

All this must be very well organized with attention to economic efficiency. The cost of a ton unloaded at the port, of a ton transported per kilometer, of a ton unloaded at its ultimate destination should not go up, rather down. Perhaps, if we had said this months ago many people would not have believed what we were saying.

But what I am saying now has been achieved by the working masses in many of the country's working districts. In response to an appeal by the party, the labor-union movement took on this job. Throughout the whole province of Pinar del Rio, every truck or freight car is unloaded within the prescribed time. In the province of Las Tunas too, they have achieved this and even better: Trucks are unloaded in an average time of 1 hour and 54 minutes, that is, in 63 percent of the prescribed time. The same is true with freight cars.

Granma and Cienfuegos are also provinces where neither ships nor trucks nor freight cars are allowed to accumulate demurrage charges.

However, we have not yet reached this point in all the provinces and all our enterprises and organizations are working toward this. There are still provinces where freight cars wait 3.82 days, 2.99 days to be unloaded. Then there is an extreme case, a province where last week an average delay of 7 days in the unloading of boxcars was recorded. This is shameless, a crime against the economy!

Cargo still arrives without /advance notice/. Advance notice is an indispensable organizational factor, of enormous importance. Because it is out of the question to keep idle warehouse stevedores waiting for a possible delivery. That would be an unacceptably wasteful procedure.

Cargo still arrives at warehouses that are not in a position to receive it: irresponsibility on the part of the organization or enterprise that ordered the shipment without checking and coordinating matters beforehand.

Ships still arrive in port without OPE-2, that is, the cargo manifest, listing the cargo the ship is carrying and the appropriate plan for distributing it to those to whom it is addressed: irresponsibility on the part of the organization or enterprise whose job it is to do precisely that.

Lots of raw materials are still acquired and shipped to a plant that has no storage facilities and will take 3 years to consume them, to cite an extreme but actual example.

Cuban ships still arrive in port which cannot dock or unload cargo because their cranes or rudders are broken due to a lack of suitable maintenance.

These organizational shortcomings and irresponsible actions, the bureaucracy, laziness and the lack of a sense of urgency still exist. The success we have had these past 3 months was achieved despite the existence of these faults and errors which, while they have been reduced, are still far from having been eliminated.

If we had eliminated these failings and this negligence, these subjective factors, I have not the slightest doubt that, instead of some 700,000, we would have unloaded 800,000 tons a month.

I also have no doubt that we must reduce these shortcomings to a minimum. We declare war on them, without quarter. Furthermore, allocated material resources will begin to flow. And workers' awareness and attitudes will continue to improve. Emulation of this model will extend the entire length of the chain of delivery and will be a powerful instrument of mobilization.

We are going to devote special attention to the improvement of port working conditions. The Labor Union-Enterprise Union Commission we have today created should present us with a detailed report on the problems that exist by February.

We optimistically face these final months of the year and our task in the coming year. With the 700,000-ton-per-month average we have achieved, we can, at its second congress, assure our party that in 1981 the labor force involved in this chain of delivery will be prepared to efficiently absorb up to 750,000 tons a month, up to 9 million in that year, while at the same time guaranteeing shipment of all the millions of tons of sugar, honey, cement, minerals, citrus fruit and other products the country exports.

The port workers, their union leaders and enterprise management are attacking the jobs assigned to them with energy and revolutionary zeal. We are certain that this will also be the case in the future. At the pace set by you, the transport workers, and the national economy has responded to it vigorously. The chain-of-delivery workers have launched the offensive!

11,466
CSO: 3010

PCC PROVINCIAL EVALUATION MEETINGS CONCLUDE

Miret at Guantanamo

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 7 Sep 80 p 1

[Article by Pablo Soroa]

[Text] Guantanamo--The party assembly for evaluation, election and reelection of officers, culmination of the assembly process from the rank and file to the provincial level prior to the second congress, met here, with 268 delegates under the chairmanship of Pedro Miret Prieto, member of the Central Committee's Political Bureau and of the Council of State.

Also present were members of the Central Committee Manuel Diaz Gonzalez and Alfonso Hodge--who was reelected first secretary of the party in the province and who read the central report--officials of the Central Committee, leaders of the party and the people's government and representatives of the political and mass organizations.

The report included a brief summary of the results of the work of the 3 years which have passed since the last assembly and of the implementation of the resolutions of the first congress and the plans of the higher organism, which were the object of periodic study by the executive bureau and the provincial committee.

The delegates elected the new provincial committee, consisting of 69 active and 7 alternate members, by secret and direct ballot.

Among the work objectives approved by the delegates for the period just beginning, on the basis of compliance with the resolutions of the meeting, as well as the theme and resolutions which will be decided at the congress and other directives of the higher organs, are the strengthening of the housing construction policy for coffee workers, the construction of highways to stimulate development of that production, the encouragement of greater productivity of saline soils and the use of coastal vessels as a means of transportation, etc.

In concluding, Pedro Miret emphasized that work with the Union of Young Communists, which is the "connecting thread of party work with the youth masses," must be undertaken with even greater intensity.

After pointing out that the process of deepening the awareness of students in the province has been meritorious, he called upon the assembly to continue improving the worker composition of the membership and to strengthen its ties with young workers.

In the economic sphere--"abundantly debated today"--Pedro Miret exhorted the assembly to avoid imports, to create the maximum exportable funds and to improve the quality of production.

Valdes Valdes at Ciego de Avila

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 7 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] Ciego de Avila (AIN)--Rafael Valdes Valdes, first secretary of the party here, read the central report of the party's assembly for evaluation, election and reelection of officers, which met in the Principal Theater here.

The document pointed out how significant it was for the province to be designated by the political bureau as the seat of the central activities for the 27th anniversary of the assault on Moncada Barracks, giving a definite impetus to the social and economic tasks ahead.

The report listed and evaluated the successes, difficulties and experiences in the work since the last assembly, and indicated as one of the principal tasks that of increasing the worker membership in the party rank and file.

In the area of economic activity, the important advances achieved in the implementation of the Economic Management and Planning System and the 2.8 percent rate of increase in production are outstanding.

The document gave an important role to the Union of Young Communists and to the mass youth organizations in the formation of the younger generations. In addition, it analyzed the activities related to culture and improvement, which have been carried out in the organs of the People's Government, and the importance of daily improvement in the efficiency of its activities.

The report also emphasized the role played by the FMC [Cuban Women's Federation], ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers], CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], and the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] in the province's struggle for social and economic development and the need to improve socialist emulation as a motor force for that activity.

Garcia at Havana

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 22 Sep 80 p 3

[Article by Ariel Rojas and Reinold Rassi]

[Text] In closing the party's provincial evaluation assembly in Havana Province, Commander of the Revolution Guillermo Garcia, a member of the political bureau, recognized and saluted the efforts of the party and the workers in that province to comply with the various production plans, particularly in the agricultural and livestock area.

Presiding at the assembly along with Guillermo Garcia were Jose R. Machado Ventura, also a member of the Political Bureau; Julio Camacho Aguilera, a member of the Secretariat and first secretary of the party in City of Havana; Brigade Gen Calixto Garcia and Emilio Loo, members of the Central Committee; Luis Alvarez de la Nuez, first secretary of the party in Havana Province; and other leaders of the party and of state agencies.

The 405 delegates present at the assembly reelected Luis Alvarez de la Nuez first secretary of the party in the province.

There was broad and critical discussion by the delegates of the central report, which was read by Luis Alvarez de la Nuez.

The assembly approved a resolution in salute to the joint Soviet-Cuban space flight and congratulated cosmonauts Col Yuriy Romanenko and Lt Col Arnaldo Tamayo.

In concluding, Guillermo Garcia emphasized the quality, depth, organization and control of the entire assembly process, which ended with this party assembly in Havana, and the importance of the various tasks to be carried out in this new phase by the communists in this province.

8735
CSO: 3010

PSYCHOLOGY OF COMBAT READINESS EXPLAINED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 14 Sep 80 pp 36-37

[Article by Maj Roberto Echevarria: "Psychology of Combat Readiness"]

[Text] Among the tasks of military psychology already explained in VERDE OLIVO (No 6 10/2/80), a prominent place is occupied by the psychological description of military activities in peacetime.

Socialist military psychology in recent years has acquired notable advances in the psychological analysis of the content of activities. In this article we shall explain some considerations or the psychological characteristics of combat readiness and the training of troops, the main objective of our work in peacetime.

Combat readiness is that which allows units and small units at any time, and in a brief period, to enter into combat in an organized manner and win a victory over the enemy. It is the result of merging objective factors (weaponry, combat equipment and so iorth) and subjective factors provided by the contents of the psyche of man, which in the final instance is the important thing. That is why if personnel are not ready to act at any moment as required, there is no combat readiness.

From the point of view of its psychological characteristics, it has two basic indexes: external and internal. The former is determined by the place where personnel are located and their occupation. The interior index is the important one and indicates whether the man and the collective unit have the necessary readiness and training for action.

On the psychological plane, the interior index has its characteristics classified by form and content.

Depending on the form of existence of psychological characteristics of combat readiness, they can be divided into two groups. The first merges the stable peculiarities existing in a soldier (hopes, interests, traditions, cooperation and so forth). This group characterizes the degree of training and potential for action under the difficult conditions of combat and it determines the initial readiness of the man and the unit.

The second group refers to the dynamic peculiarities of the psyche, among which are the hopes, motivations, thinking, concerns, suffering, degree of attention, internal mobilization and control of oneself at a given moment. In the case of the collective unit, needs, opinions, state of spirit which predominates at that moment, are also considered. This group determines the immediate readiness to accomplish combat actions as well as possible at a given moment.

Stable psychological phenomenons are something typical, which are repeated and characterize each soldier and unit. Their presence indicates the possibilities of the emergence of various psychic processes and states, but it is necessary to emphasize that the latter only materialize due to dynamic phenomenons. That is the reason for the importance of the close relationship between initial and immediate combat readiness.

The fact that the stable components are not an absolute guarantee of the emergence of the necessary psychological states is primarily due to the fact that the manifestations of the potential of man are not an automatic thing without contradictions and uniform. It is, rather, a complex internal process very much related with all the psychic processes and requires time. Research made shows that man, in the first 10 to 15 minutes of having gone from a normal, tranquil activity into a complex and difficult activity, does not show all his potential. An example of this is when there is a mobilization during an emergency.

In the second place, it is necessary to recognize that the emergence of certain psychological processes depend not only on the potential of man but also on events and the situation and conditions under which they take place.

This shows the need to instill into the soldier those qualities which allow him to shorten the time required for mobilizing all internal strengths.

Combat experience and research show that the greater the difference between the state required under combat conditions and that which is manifested by personnel in activities of combat training, guard service and so forth, the more difficult it will be for them to mobilize all their potential at the required time.

That is why it is important to maintain a high immediate combat readiness which should be characterized by high political-moral feelings, understanding of the tasks ahead, difficulties and processes for accomplishing them, desire to fight the enemy, self-confidence and high emotional state and readiness.

After having determined the stable and the dynamic psychological components of combat readiness by their form, we shall now do so by their content. Here also we shall divide the elements into two groups: the first being the basic (general) and the second the complementary (specific).

Basic psychological phenomenons are those which show the readiness of the soldier to perform any task and maintain his composure toward any critical situation.

These depend on the political awareness, responsibility, discipline and will of the man. These qualities are based on the Marxist-Leninist concept of the world, the ideas of the interests of the individual, a profound knowledge of the policy of our party and a developed feeling of duty.

Internal combat readiness, however, is also insured by complementary (specific) elements because men in the performance of their service, in the use of weapons and in the fight against tanks or aircraft must at all times show the maximum limits of the specific elements of their readiness and training. Among these elements must be a constant alertness, a deep understanding of individual responsibilities for the security of the country, proper application of procedures and ways and means for achieving a complete readiness. Psychological and special training, continuous and skillful observation, ability to pass from standby to action status quickly, high degree of stability so as to withstand sudden and unexpected tensions produced by responsibility, danger, risks and temporary failures, are also necessary. A decisive role is also played by qualities of will such as initiative, independence, composure, clarity of objectives, determination, courage, self-control, as well as qualities of thought, among which cunning, ingenuity, quickness, profundity, broadness and intuition are prominent. The listed components of the specific content of combat readiness have their peculiarities in the commanders, political workers, soldiers, pilots, sailors and so forth, that is, in each type of military occupation.

The fundamental contents and stable elements which make up the internal readiness of personnel are formed under the influence of the entire system of instruction, education, psychological training and service in general.

The work oriented toward a concrete objective under the conditions of instruction, education, psychological training, guard service and so forth have a great influence on the specific content.

The complex structure of the internal combat readiness of personnel objectively reflects the requirements asked of the members of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], particularly of the command structure and officers, who not only have to maintain a high internal combat readiness but must also obtain it from their subordinates as a basic condition for the high combat capabilities of our troops in the defense of the Socialist Homeland.

Key:

1. Psychological characteristics of combat readiness
2. External index
3. Place and occupation of personnel
4. External index
5. Readiness and training
6. By its form
7. Group I--Stable peculiarities
8. Man--Convictions, knowledge, habits, skills, customs and others
9. Unit--Hopes, interests, traditions, cooperation and others

10. This group determines initial readiness
11. Group II--Dynamic peculiarities
12. Man--Aspirations, motives, thoughts, concerns, degree of attention, mobilization, self-control, all this at a given moment.
13. Unit--Needs, opinions, state of spirit and others, all at a given moment.
14. This group determines immediate readiness
15. By their content
16. Group 1--Basic (general)
17. Political awareness, high degree of responsibility, discipline, will and so forth
18. Group II--complementary (specific)
19. Constant alertness, understanding of the need for a high combat readiness.
    High sense of individual responsibility
    Proper application of processes, way and means for reaching a high combat readiness.
    Special psychological training
    Continuous and skillful observation
    Ability to go from standby to action
    Stability for withstanding high tensions and overloads produced by danger, risks, responsibility and temporary failures
    Qualities of will (initiative, independence, steadfastness, clarity of objectives, courage and self-control).
    Qualities of thought (cunning, ingeniousness, quickness, depth, broadness and intuition).

8908
CSO: 3010

EASTERN ARMY BORDER BRIGADE INITIATES EMULATION

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 17 Sep 80 pp 52-54

[Article by Pablo Noa: "And The Desire of The Border Guards Was Fulfilled"]

[Text] The beginning of the training year brought pleasant news: the Eastern Army Border Brigade declared itself "Socialist Emulation Initiating Unit in the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces]."

The news caused no surprise among us who know the characteristics and the quality of the commanders, officers, warrant officers, sergeants and privates which make it up. It did, however, lead to a festive and enthusiastic atmosphere.

Soldiers who for years have faced the aggressions of the imperialist enemy from the front lines of the revolution, now received the honor and recognition to the old desire to be initiators of emulation.

And it was precisely there, scant kilometers from the place where the Yankee beast sinks its claws that the beautiful military ceremony in which the unit proclaimed itself an initiator took place.

With the voice of steadfast men, presided over by Div Gen Sixto Batista Santana, chief of the Central Political Directorate of the FAR; Alfonso Hodge, Guantanamo Provincial Party Committee First secretary, both members of the Central Committee; Div Gen Julio Casas, chief of the Eastern Army and alternate member of the Central Committee, commanders, officers and representatives of the political and mass organizations, the ceremony took place.

It is extraordinarily symbolic that at the same place that the soldiers of the Border Brigade have for almost 20 years heroically and with exemplary calm faced many provocations and acts of aggression, there is now its proclamation as "Socialist Emulation Initiating Unit in the FAR," an honor which falls upon the Eastern Army for the first time.

The words of Col Orgelino Perez Pena, as he read the pledge-challenge, filled the parade ground, carrying to those in attendance the spirit of the members of the unit and their determination to comply with it completely.

Joy was visible in the young soldiers, perfectly formed into squares. Undoubtedly this event is already part of life on the border, like so many others which enrich their fighting tradition.

This brigade has a beautiful and rich fighting history. It was formed during the early years of the revolution of workers, peasants, youths of the five peaks [jovenes cinco picos], members of the Rebel Army and the National Revolutionary Militia. When aggressions were a sort of daily occurance, and the hostility of imperialism against our young revolution was becoming greater every day, the unit had an active participation during those years in the operations of the fight against bandits and other important fighting activities. It remained on the front lines together with our people during the hard and difficult days of the October Crisis. Firm and determined, showing its great daring and courage, it faced imperialist aggressions and provocations in which self-sacrificing comrades lost their lives.

All this contributed to the fighting spirit of this group, whose soldiers have been characterized by their determination, loyalty to the revolution and socialism and discipline and a high sense of honor which makes them deserving of the admiration and respect of the FAR and all the people.

In its salute, the Provincial Party Committee expressed its support and determination to collaborate with the brigade in complying with the important aspects which make up the pledge-challenge referring to raising and maintaining combat and mobilization readiness, political and Marxist-Leninist training, maintenance, conservation and use of equipment and weaponry, living conditions, recreation, culture and sports, civilian worker activities, and others...

The solemn moment brought to mind past events with their heroes and martyrs, who invariably are evoked in this combination of efforts and accomplishments.

"It is impossible on a day like today, when the unit, in deserved recognition of its efforts and brilliant execution, receives an honor which distinguishes it, not to remember the brave comrades, who in a gesture which immortalizes them, died in the performance of their duty. We feel the physical absence of Ramon Lopez Pena and Luiz Ramirez Lopez today, but we feel their presence and their demand: Work and fight for the same work in which they and thousands of Cubans have given their precious lives: the Revolution!"

With the Border Guards

Although the ceremony ended with the closing speech made by Brig Gen Jesus Bermudiz Cutino, we began a brief talk with some of the members of the unit.

Col Orgelino Perez Pena was the first to answer the question: "How did the members of the brigade feel when they learned it had been accepted as an initiator?"

"When the favorably reply to our request was received, allowing us to be Socialist Emulation Initiatin Unit in the FAR, there was a great enthusiasm in the brigade which led to meetings and gatherings in the small units and to continuous demonstrations of joy among all personnel."

Around us are other officers and soldiers, so we decided to make a sort of collective interview in which all would participate. In keeping with this, we asked the question to Lt Col Carlos C Galan, political worker in the unit.

"This is an old hope. There was broad participation in the preparation of the document. Everyone contributed elements to be considered in the pledge-challenge. Generally it reflects the main aspects of the life of the unit. Because of the support by the members of the unit from the beginning, we are sure that we shall fulfill it and next year we shall have another ceremony in which we shall be given the banner of Socialist Emulation Initiating Unit in the FAR for fulfilling its pledge," he said.

We took advantage of the presence of 1st Lt Jose Antonio Santana, Party leader, to learn of the communist organization activity with respect to the pledge.

"For the communists the pledge-challenge is a task for all. We are ready to give everything humanly possible, whatever is necessary, in efforts to successfully fulfill it. I also wish to point out that these activities will be accomplished together with those already planned and with those we are accomplishing to hail the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba."

"And what will the Young Communists Union [UJC] do?"

The reply was provided by Sgt 1st Class Nelson Lobaine, secretary general of a rank and file organization.

"Truly, for the members of the UJC this proclamation is a great stimulus which makes us very happy. We have to be demanding in the accomplishment of our work and must work seriously to guarantee victory in the tasks

the unit has set for itself. We shall demonstrate with our attitude and activities that we are deserving of this high responsibility and recognition."

Two soldiers have been listening carefully to the conversation. Before turning to them, Lieutenant Colonel Galan told me that they are FAR vanguards in the unit this year.

Luis Enrique Almeida and Victor Rodriguez Suarez are young men who by their behavior symbolize the feeling of determination and seriousness of the rest of their comrades.

"All the comrades of the brigade have the certainty and the confidence that we shall keep our pledge," begins Luiz Enrique. "The results achieved in the checks and inspection visits demonstrate this. We are in the best of shape."

We asked Victor what it means to him to be initiators.

"It means a lot that my unit proclaimed itself Socialist Emulation Initiating Unit of the FAR because we are a very few steps from the Yankee Naval Base and it is a high honor for every revolutionary soldier who occupies a post in the anti-imperialist front lines, who is the vanguard leader in emulation in the FAR."

The gathering, which was truly small exchange of ideas, corroborated the initial evaluation: They are decidedly certain that they will keep their pledge. The words of General of the Army Raul Castro, minister of the FAR, when he visited the Border Brigade in February 1965 are a spur and the main slogan for them: "While the Cuban Socialist Revolution is the vanguard in America, this military unit occupies the frontline as the spearhead of the vanguard of socialism in this continent. This unit must be exemplary among the exemplary."

8908
CSO: 3010

'PRODUCTIVE' USE OF FARM MACHINERY DISCUSSED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 12 Sep 80 pp 16-23

[Article by Magda Martinez on discussions with officials and workers at the Melanio Ortiz Miscellaneous Crops Enterprise in Las Tunas]

[Text] Is It or Isn't It Productive?

Such a question is ambiguous when posed this way, but it makes all the difference if we clarify that we are talking about farm machinery, doesn't it, because this is a much-talked-about topic. For better or for worse. Whether it is utilized properly. Whether there is too much equipment because of the ingrained habit of always asking for more. Whether at times it is used for activities other than farming. In a nutshell, countless doubts could exist. For this reason, the BOHEMIA Economic Section visited Las Tunas, the land of patriot Vicente Garcia, to conduct a survey on the following questions: Is the machinery being utilized properly at present? What is the ratio between equipment and operators? Are there fuel consumption standards? Do equipment operators receive adequate incentives? The survey yielded interesting results. Of course, the Melanio Ortiz Miscellaneous Crops Enterprise in Las Tunas does not present the bleakest outlook in terms of equipment use. It is also fair to report that a month ago its situation was not the same as today. Why, then, has it improved? This is a valid question. This article provides that kind of information. I have a firm commitment to return within 6 months. Everyone agreed, and in fact, a thought-provoking plan was decided on.

As we were flying to Las Tunas, countless things were going through my mind. I remembered passages from Fidel's speech at the opening of the health care complex in the province. I was familiar with the province from what I had heard or from what I had read in the papers about it, but as far as a real personal experience was concerned, I had had none. This was, in fact, my first visit to the province in all of my travels around the country reporting on its economy. My assignment was clear-cut: to conduct a survey on farm equipment, which as a colleague accurately stated, is the backbone of agriculture. Thus, my job was important enough to keep me busy all the time.

It would not be odd for someone to question the reason for such concern. Already during the initial descent I was thinking about the somewhat widespread view that farm machinery was not being properly utilized, from an economic standpoint, of course. Thus, with a sheaf of papers containing very simple questions under my arm, I toured the six districts of the Melanio Ortiz Miscellaneous Crops Enterprise in the municipality of Jobabo. There, I went about surveying all machinery operators and their bosses. My goal: to learn the facts from the grass roots. What do all these men think?

By now I was engaged in a whirlwind of activity, because it was not as simple as talk of a mere survey might imply, even though I questioned 57 individuals day after after and district by district. My questions were neither complicated nor tricky; on the contrary, they were simple and straightforward.

If my job had involved just this, there would have been no problem. But aside from the survey, I conversed with a heavy equipment platoon and with the union section from the Ciruelitos District (the enterprise's largest district and the one with the most manpower problems) and, to round things out, I met with the expanded Board of Directors. The questions were the same at each and every one of the talks: Is the machinery being properly used? Are equipment operators being given incentives? How are social problems being dealt with?

I was given an exhaustive report by the Melanio Ortiz Enterprise itself. It provides a thorough analysis of issues relating to the use of equipment, from the economic angle, naturally.

I was satisfied when I completed my job, because I was able to discuss countless things as I toured the enterprise with Antonio Couso, the head of equipment of its subdivision. The conversation always revolved around the origin of the name Las Tunas [tuna=prickly pear] and the famous battle that was fought on a hill covered with these plants. My host also took me one evening to see the "El Cornito" tourist center, and I saw the famous birthplace of El Cucalambe. Here, of course, we spoke at length about the poet. We then returned to the topic of machinery. Couso, I should point out, was a first class colleague and, like the others, he never tried to keep me in the dark. My companions were always helpful. At times, during our tour we caught people red-handed with equipment on the highway. No excuses were ever given. On the contrary, I was asked to get on with the questioning. I would then get out and start asking. This was the spirit, and none other, that prevailed during my 6-day stay in Las Tunas.

I will mention one initial piece of information so that readers do not become confused. The chronological order of my interviews is going to be reversed in this article, whose content, however, will not be altered.

A Union Section Speaks

As I was in the midst of organizing my survey, I told my companions that I wanted to meet with a district union section to look into the farm machinery issue and other topics of interest from the grass roots level.

BOHEMIA's talk with the union began early in the morning and lasted until noon. We touched on interesting issues, including many that can indirectly have a negative or positive impact on how an enterprise is run and, therefore, on how machinery is used.

Our discussion was wideranging, and each person said what he had to, without sugar-coating or rose-colored glasses, simply and plainly. These are their opinions, expressed with absolute honesty and with that incredible sensitivity that the rank-and-file have in focusing on problems, especially these genuine representatives of the working class in the Ciruelitos District.

Question: What are your views concerning the utilization of farm machinery?

Armando Almaguer, organizer: The biggest difficulty is supplying spare parts. Sometimes there really aren't any, and other times it's because of snags. The central repair shop does not pick up at the platoon.

Question: Why?

Armando: They say that the machinery has to go into the shop. Can you imagine? Sometimes a team loses a couple of days just because of a simple little thing, because they have to use their shift to take it to the shop. Now then, if the platoon were given the chance to do it, I could take care of it right away because I'm a mechanic. They have made it obligatory to send everything to the shop. Just think about it, a piece of equipment breaks down because of steering defects, and you tow it into the shop. By the time you get there, of course, it's not only the steering but the battery, the generator, etc too.

Wilder Acosta, secretary general of the enterprise bureau: Even if an operator can do an item of repair work, it still has to go into the shop. But he isn't paid for the 4 hours that he has to stay there, and that interferes with work. The shop doesn't do the best repair work either. You go to pick up a harrow, and something goes wrong with it right away. The BOHEMIA survey could help this enterprise a lot. Quality is what is lacking. For example, we have just one welding machine...

Armando, who is, after all, a mechanic and a fiery leader, comes out with an idea that he has brought up before: "We once asked for a portable welder, so that we could cover the entire enterprise. You say you have to weld a harrow? Well, get a tractor with a trailer and take it to the shop. What a waste of time!"

Question: How are equipment operators treated?

Silvio Estupinan, emulation front: There is emulation in the district, and the best operators come from there, but it doesn't go beyond that level. They are not encouraged. They have held their little parties, but with their own funds. The winners encourage themselves.

There is just one woman leader in the union section. Her name is Magdalena Perez and she heads up the work organization front. Her comment was: "The same thing happens with something as necessary as lunch. It doesn't arrive, and the claim is that there is nothing to bring it in. That is quite discouraging."

The intrepid Armando then emphasizes: "We don't need millions. The situation is easily handled. For example, we can take the best platoon to the beach. We have two or three trucks here, and the folks who went that Sunday are battling to earn the right to go again.

Magdalena Perez: I remember that in the livestock section the best worker was given a saddle and a pair of boots was raffled off among 12 others. That is an incentive for them to keep working hard.

Armando: Some workers are not familiar with "El Cornito."

We tested this assertion among the six comrades who were there. Only three of them had visited this tourist spot, and they had done so on their own.

Wilder Acosta: It's nice going to "El Cornito."

Armando replies like lightning: "But being taken there because you won a trip is not the same as going by yourself. No one here wants to have his expenses paid; we only want to have the trip organized.

Wilder Acosta: The union doesn't have a budget, and apparently the workers have to pay for any excursion. There are districts in which the equipment operators are taken care of properly. They ought to have lunch brought to them in the field.

Silverio Salazar, secretary general of the union section: We have discussed the lunch problem with the administration here.

Silvio Estupinan: There is no control with the workers' lunch. At times the services chief takes some of the breakfast portion and takes care of them that way.

Armando: The lunch problem is an old one. It's been around since Adam.

Magdalena Perez: Since part of the breakfast portion is used for lunch, sometimes we've been left without rations.

Armando: We've gone without tubers here. You say it, but you still don't believe it. Where are they grown, anyway! And the reason given is this: there is not enough equipment to go back there and get it.

Wilder Acosta: If there are not enough tubers here to eat in this district, it's because of negligence.

I have to get back to the original question: Is the machinery being properly used or not? At times, three pieces of equipment are sent to the same place to do the same three things when one can do them just as well. They also have to get organized to condense information because otherwise, the equipment will never get the job done in the districts.

A parenthetical remark: they have obviously been talking about services, not production activities.

Armando does not lose his train of thought: "There used to be just one person to take those papers, and they took him away."

Wilder: This enterprise is not profitable. Last year it cost 3 pesos to produce 1. It all went into conservation. I agree nevertheless. At times we have wound up spending more by trying to save. We have not been analytical. The list of regular staff has not broken down by function; it is not even up-to-date.

Faustino Rodriguez: That's why the machinery is running around all over the place. For the sake of economy we got rid of the fellow who did the reports. But we sent out a tractor operator who earns 4 pesos a day, plus the 100-odd peso salary of the other. He used to do both and earn 96. He went around on horseback and did it all himself. We paid a lot of pesos to save a little work.

The Ciruelitos District is short 300 men for its production activities, and this shortfall is made up with personal from another district, Aguas Blancas. These men have to commute 30 kilometers a day over bad roads. If we want to be realistic from an economic standpoint, how should we resolve this situation?

Silverio Salazar: Trying to get the men settled in is complicated.

Magdalena Perez: There is a solution. You build housing for them and bring them in here. That is the most obvious possibility.

Silvio Estupinan: The most practical, at least. When they go home now and get caught by a rain shower, they say to themselves: "I'm not coming tomorrow." Also, if we add it all up, when they come in from over there, they work 4 or 5 hours. If they lived here, they would work 8.

Silverio: When the irrigation gets here, we'll be able to make do with fewer people.

Armando: These are people with a small plot of farm land, and it won't be easy to get them to leave their region. We have to give them guarantees here.

You can now see why I altered the sequence in this article, and it will become even clearer later on. It's simple. The survey results show that most people thought that the machinery was being used as it was supposed to be used. We should logically ask: Why do these problems exist. Although, I repeat, I could not confront the enterprise with analytical indices of equipment use, I noticed during my talks that a number of very real problems were brought up.

Here is the rest of the article.

Facts and Figures on the Enterprise

I mentioned previously that the Melanio Ortiz Enterprise is located in the municipality of Jobabo. It has a farm acreage of 220.5 caballerias [1 caballeria=33.2 acres] and a staff of 1,449 workers.

A little bit above, I explained the method I used for this BOHEMIA economic section article. I was giving basic information. A breakdown of the survey responses shows that almost 70 percent of those polled thought that the machinery was being used properly.

Try to follow my approach carefully. Here are the facts on the enterprise, as reflected in the sruvey. Let's take a close look at certain indicators.

The enterprise has 100 pieces of equipment for its production work. The following are the percentage utilizations of the machinery by type:

C-100	19 percent
DT-75	20 percent
MTZ-80	63 percent
JUNZ-6	58 percent
MTZ	87 percent
T-25	57 percent
T-28x3	90 percent

If catepillar tractors are supposed to show 50 percent utilization and wheel tractors, 70 percent, we can see right away that we are not up to standards. The equipment earmarked for non-production use is only at 87 and 96 percent.

The average number of equipment work hours (in terms of the active fleet) was 7.1 enterprise/hours. However, prior to my visit, the average was just 4 or 5 hours. The picture has changed substantially after the system of pay linked to a completed field was instituted. This has been a major gain, as revealed in the positive responses in the survey, although my talks still brought out a number of shortcomings.

The figures revealed by the question concerning equipment used for staff transportation and services are not alarming on paper. Nevertheless, the union mentioned some facts to be kept in mind. Perhaps this can be clarified when I come back in 6 months.

Tractors for services	9 percent
Tractors for transportation	7 percent

Here is a fact that grabbed my attention: the enterprise has 100 tractors and 79 operators.

These are the figures. I am quoting them just as they were supplied. I am now giving the floor to the

Expanded Board of Directors

I was about 30 kilometers from the main office and arrived a half-hour later for my meeting with the Board of Directors because the enterprise's roads were in such poor condition. They had been waiting outside, under a big, leafy tree. I proposed that we remain there. Here at least we could feel the cool, lazy breeze.

The circle widened, and then the usual thing happened: people could not break the ice. How hard it is for people to loosen up! A number of them did, however, speak up on a variety of topics.

They were at all times receptive to what I said about a number of irregularities that I noticed on the roads. The following is a summary of our conversation as it transpired.

Dario Posada, enterprise director: If we look at things in perspective, the machinery has to do a lot more work. We are just fair in technique. We do not meet the guidelines. Nevertheless, what we get planted now is because of the equipment.

Question: Why does the machinery foreman also have to be held accountable for breaking up new ground?

Dario: The machinery head should be working on the technology and organization of the equipment. Basically, he should be allocating the tractors by district. The production foremen should be in charge of their utilization.

A parenthetical remark: I asked this question because the machinery foreman himself had told me about this situation. Regrettably, however, when it came his turn to speak, he did not delve further into the matter.

Solitude and melancholy, as Nicola de Neri would say in one of his songs. This detail lodged itself readily in my mental file. As soon as I arrived, Couso the engineer began talking about the spot known as La Soledad. So I visited it. It's an enormous plain of about 60 caballerias. That's all. The enterprise had planted 18 caballerias of sweet potatoes and harvested just 2.5; the rains ruined the rest.

La Soledad and La Soledad...Go see La Soledad. The name itself does not tell the whole story. It does not take much effort to imagine what it is like. It is lonely. I counted only three dwellings in the vicinity. That's all. This is lowland, and proper access roads are urgently needed to prevent flooding when it rains. Manpower and materials were wasted when it rained. If its future is not assured, it will continue to be dependent on the weather, like a sword of Damocles over its head. But let's be optimistic. The weather was good, and they were able to prepare the land. Then they planted, and when the harvest was being gathered, it began raining. What could they do?

They were again preparing the fields at the time to plant sweet potatoes. You could not help thinking about their mental torture. What if it rains? Will we lose everything again? Life involves such things, however. Suddenly, the deserted plain was brightened by a starling, a bird with normal plumage on top and a pretty contrast between glassy blue and yellow on its breast.

I almost had to write the above lines, to introduce the reader to the core of the following debate:

Dario: La Soledad is supposed to have irrigation over 33 caballerias. We have done a l[illegible] earthmoving work, but the system has still not arrived. It was supposed to be here in April.

We were planning to grow bananas in La Soledad. It's common in this region.

A finished field policy is to an extent a solution, because this is the problem with farming: we do planting that is not really planting, the same with clearing. We have to do programming that reaches everyone. We have to go further: pay for what is done.

Question: Why are there more pieces of equipment than operators?

Dario: The roll says one man per machine, but we're really at 0.79. Our technical utilization level is below average. That number doesn't matter, but we have to cover everything anyway. It's poor organization not to have a full staff and to have that many undeveloped caballerias.

Wilfredo Arenas, machinery foreman, then spoke up along the same lines: "In 1979 we had only one welding machine, and our shops did not really meet the needs of our equipment. The machines will yield benefits when the facilities are completed."

"We have serious problems with parts. For example, the DT-75's have been in use for 2 years and they still lack basic parts. Three of them are out of order for this reason.

"Roads are extremely important for equipment performance. In two districts we have had to put two tractors on a trailer with tubers to help it get going. This is a violation of technical standards, and equipment can get broken.

"We have to focus attention on direct mechanization. This will cut costs and work time."

Question: Are machinery operators being given incentives?

Arenas: We have held ceremonies for them, [illegible] with the union, a dinner and an awards ceremony. We held another one [illegible] en the spring farm season ended. I don't mean to say that we ar[illegible] doing all we can, but we have been trying to carry out our plans.

Dario wants to point out one detail: "We pick out the best ones and take them to the enterprise. After an annual evaluation, we give a dining room set as a prize, and at the half-year mark we're going to give away some other furniture."

Question: Something worries me. What is going on with the operators' lunches?

Dario: Lunch is not part of the planning, and we have to work on it. We have come up with internal solutions. But this is a shortcoming of ours. We had a cassava bread bakery, and it fell apart. It's all an organizational problem.

Wilder Acosta: There have been problems with the incentives. This semester we have not been able to do evaluations.

Wilder continued his comments with determination: "We normally do not give incentives. We do not pick the best workers. From a material standpoint, we should take them to the beach. Some have not been to 'El Cornito' but spend 8 or 10 hours sitting in top of a piece of equipment."

All of the district chiefs agreed that the most disciplined group was the machinery operators.

In a talk with the DT-75 platoon we analyzed their comments about how hard it was to meet the quotas. So, I moved on to this issue. Angel Pacheco, from human resources, provided a reply: "The DT-75 quotas are nationwide, and they are based on the book estimates, taking into account the soil and the activity. I don't know why they are bringing this up. When adjustments are needed, the person who sets the quota tells us about them."

Antonio Couso wanted to say something before we concluded: "There is one major concern with regard to the equipment: it should really be productive and it should not be where it is not supposed to be. Nevertheless, we cannot say this about all of them. For example, we have found production tractors being used for personal matters. We have fought against this, but it is still going on. The situation is worst in the districts. Here, our comrades pick up the document and voucher for a DT-75 and unload a sack of tubers at a house."

"We have executed the machinery use program, but we could do more. Because of this, some machinery is kept out of service and production."

The Results of the Survey

Just a few hours after landing I met with the comrades of the agricultural and livestock department of the Provincial PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] and with Hector San Juan, the deputy delegate of the Miscellaneous Crops Section. After I explained the purposes of my work, San Juan immediately gave me all the support he could. What is more, he commented to me that they had just overhauled and set up a new schedule for the equipment and that the survey would complement these efforts.

I spoke with San Juan and then, at the enterprise, with Dario about the almost 2 months of uninterrupted rains and the losses in land preparation. The planting had thus been adversely affected. By the time I arrived, intensive work was going on to recover lost time. So I was asked to try and interrupt work as little as possible. We reached an agreement. I was supposed to go to places where the equipment was preparing the land, and I kept my word. I didn't stop anyone from working. BOHEMIA's economics section got right into the furrows.

The poll covered 57 machinery workers from the Melanio Ortiz Enterprise, with the following breakdown: 27 operators; 20 mechanics, route planners [pisteros] and others; 10 district leaders.

The following were their levels of education: 5 had a first to third grade education; 30, from fourth to sixth grade, and 17 with more than a sixth grade education.

Adding these figures up, we find that there is a difference of five individuals. This is because they left the box in question blank. This was not the only time. Other significant data had to do with the experience of the participants: 16 had between 1 and 10 years, and 34 had from 10 to 20 years.

The staff gave the following answers to the question about the use of equipment: 39 said that it was being used well; 6 said it was not, and 3 said that they didn't know.

As far as tractor work hours were concerned, 11 said 8 hours; 33 said 10, and 9 said more than 10.

I then asked how many hours were actually worked. Twenty-six said 8 hours; 15 said 10, and 3 said more than 10.

The wide range of answers from the staff is not to be ignored: 7 hours, 6.5, 7.5, 9.5 and fewer than 12. This is an interesting mix. The enterprise itself mentions 7.1 enterprise/hours in its general report. Why don't the workers know what the work day really is and what its breakdown is like?

I had already mentioned that 70 percent of them regarded as proper the utilization of the equipment. From the outset, my curiosity was aroused by this percentage. That is why I reversed the order, to place myself in the proper context. Monitoring-related aspects were also dealt with in the survey. In this regard, I asked the following questions: Who reports the work? Who monitors the quality of work? Who monitors maintenance? Who monitors fuel consumption?

The wide range of diverging responses is noteworthy. Is that really how the monitoring is done? Is that conforming to standards? Do the answers really reflect how things are? Is it because the participants don't know? If the monitoring is so far from standardized, how can it contribute to internal organization in the enterprise?

In reply to the first question, 11 said the platoon chief; 21 said the plot foreman and 21 said the machinery foreman. In answer to the second question, 5 mentioned the platoon chief, 24, the plot foreman; 4, the production foreman; 16, the machinery foreman; 1, the human resources foreman and another the person setting production quotas. As far as the third question is concerned, maintenance monitoring, 47 said the technical foreman and 2 said the mechanic. With regard to the person monitoring fuel consumption, there was a wide range of answers: 8 pointed to the technical foreman; 41 to the route planners; 1 to the operator himself, and another to the machinery foreman.

I must repeat a previous comment. A certain number of those I polled mentioned nothing or no one in their answers to almost all questions. Those who are curious and take the time to add up the numbers, should remember this when they notice discrepancies in totals.

Something to Conclude

The Melanio Ortiz Enterprise is large, and its problems stem from its own territorial structure. They have been incorporating small sections, and a district could just as well cover 30 as 100 caballerias.

In addition, the districts are widely scattered. I was unable to tour the entire enterprise in a day. It is a somewhat troublesome situation, both from the standpoint of management and organizing and utilizing resources.

Throughout this article I have referred to the conditions of roads. How, then, do they resolve the difficulties of getting the crops out over those roads? On occasions they have had to resort to oxen. I often came across them during my visit.

I must stress once again: locally speaking, the Melanio Ortiz Enterprise is not the only one, nor is it in the worst shape. Frankly, however, there are organizational snags in the districts, and there is no widespread concern as to the best use of the equipment.

There are no consumption standards for how many gallons are supposed to be used for such and such activity. Only in the Pozo Salado District did the machinery foreman show me on his own what he has been doing to draw some conlcusions. He is making somewhat rough estimates. This is, however, a quite widespread practice. Since there are no standards, consumption levels are quite unclear, of course.

During the lengthy talk with the Board of Directors, Dario replied thus to the question about consumption: "If we are producers, I think that we ought to set up a fuel filling spot to meet our needs. Otherwise, we would turn into a distributor, and that is complicated." This is his respectable viewpoint. I, however, disagree, though my modest judgment is, of course, not infallible. I think that the enterprise could do a fine job in this regard. As the old adage goes, you always look after your own things best. We have covered this well-worn path before. Man is more productive when he feels that his needs are met.

Man thinks according to how he lives, Karl Marx correctly stated. It is undeniable that lifestyles influence productivity. As people's basic problems are taken care of for them, all of their reserve strength will unavoidably emerge.

Couso told me about recreational activities. There are few options. The problem is similar with housing. Here is another fact: when the technicians and professionals complete their social service, they leave.

That is why I clearly remember Fidel's words at the opening of the health care complex in Las Tunas. How much remains to be done! These working people are battling to overcome their difficulties, because they realize that part of the solution is in their power. I do not doubt that they will be resolved, because they plunge every day with such eagerness and concern into the battle to prove that they are worthy of the site of 26 July.

Views of the DT-75 Platoon

I was told a great deal about this heavy equipment platoon. They have an important job to do. They have to constantly travel around the enterprise and shoulder the most difficult work. It was they who worked in the discouraging surroundings of La Soledad. These operators were in charge of preparing the 18 caballerias that were later lost.

The entire platoon was there, but not all of them spoke up. Only Ramon Carreno, Eduardo Rojas, Leonardo Ortiz and Orlando Figueredo made comments. The rest remained silent, their arms crossed.

The following were the general comments:

--A lot of land is prepared, but the work force is unable to cover it.

--An awful lot of land has been lost. We have brought this up, and their answer is that these are the plans.

--Some lands have been prepared more than four times.

--We ought to be planting according to our manpower, not the plans.

--The production quota book is out of touch with reality: hard soil, weeds, rocks. The land is not evaluated.

--The production quotas are being met, but we have to work hard.

Some individuals comments were:

Eduardo Rojas: If the production quota is for 6 hours, and we work 8, something's not right. This wears out the equipment and the tools and is not the right way to farm.

Ramon Carreno: The machinery operators at the Melanio Ortiz Enterprise are worried about the loss of land, which is due to several causes. We work hard to get the most out of it, and you can see this readily in what gets done.

Leonardo Ortiz: The basic secondary schools are a big help, but our needs are still not being met.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 17. The Melanio Ortiz Enterprise planned to plant 207 caballerias as follows: 162 in the spring and 45 in winter. They were nearing 100 in April when they had to stop to take care of the areas that were already planted, which would otherwise have been lost.

2. p 17 This small tractor is a T-25, a very effective piece of equipment in growing bananas. It has been out of service for 5 months because of a factory defect. It is warrantied, but the part has not arrived. Thus, it has not done its work on 100 caballerias.

3. p 18 At this parts warehouse in the main shop I saw for myself the tight supervision of stock through file checks and stock card verifications. I did a random sample, and everything checked out perfectly.

4. pp 18-19 Enterprise tool mechanic Eduardo Rojas is shown driving a tractor along the highway with a companion. This is a clear-cut violation of the rules.

5. p 21 One of the Melanio Ortiz Enterprise's permanent goals is to grow yucca, sweet potatoes, malanga and bananas.

8743
CSO: 3010

STUDENTS REPUDIATE SALVADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

PA171614 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Oct 80

[Communique of Honduran University Students Federation dated 16 October; read by unidentified student leader in telephone call from Tegucigalpa--broadcast in progress; recorded]

[Text] ...The foreign minister of the Salvadoran tyranny. The Honduran University Students Federation [FEUH], [words indistinct] a member of the National Coordinating Commission of Solidarity With the Salvadoran People, expresses with indignation its repudiation of the visit to our country, or better said, to the government of our country, of the foreign minister of the Salvadoran bloody tyranny.

The Salvadoran foreign minister cannot be welcomed in our country. On the contrary, his presence is an insult to Honduran youths and people because it is part of the machinations of U.S. imperialism and the Central American oligarchies in detriment to the national interests and dignity of people, particularly of our people who, in 1969, were the target of a cowardly aggression by the Salvadoran armed forces in the service of the Salvadoran oligarchy.

One of those machinations seeks to hasten a solution of the Honduran-Salvadoran dispute, completely disregarding Honduras' national interests and betraying the official position held up to a short time ago which called for the overall and simultaneous resolution of the issues involved in the conflict between the two countries. The objective of all this is to smooth the way for the coordination of the counterrevolutionary forces manipulated and led by the U.S. interventionists who were the accomplices of the 1969 aggression in view of the relations they have always had with the Salvadoran oligarchy.

The Salvadoran foreign minister represents a government which is not representative of the desires or interests of the Salvadoran people. Instead he represents a small, exploitative and repressive minority which is currently waging a counterrevolutionary war against that brother people. It uses brutal slaughter and fierce repressive methods to keep itself in power and to defeat the rebellion of the popular masses, which heroically resist in an unequal battle for democracy, justice and national liberation.

In view of the aforementioned, the FEUH repudiates the visit of the Salvadoran foreign minister and calls on all patriotic sectors to raise the banner in

demand of an overall and simultaneous settlement of the conflict with El Salvador and to unite to defeat the traitorous maneuver of an agreement that is harmful to the national interests. Workers, peasants, students, patriotic soldiers, all of us will repudiate the anti-Honduran and antipopular maneuvers of the Salvadoran oligarchy and the U.S. interventionists.

FEUH to victory always. 16 October 1980

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

CHARGE TROOPS HELPING SALVADORAN REGIME--The National Coordinating Board of Solidarity With El Salvador has charged in Tegucigalpa that Honduran troops helped the Salvadoran regime in war actions carried out in several towns in Morazan Department. For its part, the Central American Independent News Agency reported that Honduran military units have cordoned off the San Antonio River to prevent the entry of Salvadoran refugees. It added that El Salvador and Honduras will sign a peace treaty this month as part of the counterrevolutionary strategy planned and supported by the United States. It noted that revolutionary forces occupied Mejicanos and Cuscatansingo neighborhoods in San Salvador over the past few hours. The revolutionaries gave military training, including lessons on how to make home-made bombs, to the residents. [Excerpt] [PA182019 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Oct 80]

CSO: 3010

'BARRICADA' SAYS 'LA PRENSA' ABUSING FREEDOM OF PRESS

PA170142 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Oct 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Why Does LA PRENSA Talk of 'Censorship'?"]

[Text] It is necessary to establish once and for all the reason why LA PRENSA has in practice adopted a negative posture that runs contrary to the legal system which the revolution has implemented as the source of power to preserve and deepen the country's socioeconomic transformations. Its posture is due to the fact that it seeks to deny the legitimacy of the junta of the government of national reconstruction by indicating veiled similarities between the junta and the Somozist government.

In recent days, it has been LA PRENSA's policy of information to challenge the revolutionary government. Its editorials say one thing, but it practices another in daily work. All this is designed to undermine the legitimacy of the revolutionary government, because this is a class government that represents the interests of the workers.

But the shameful thing is that it tries to hide these maneuvers behind the upright figure of Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro by harking back to editorials and articles which he wrote, with his characteristic bravery and honesty, against the Somozist military dictatorship. In other words, LA PRENSA manipulates the figure of its martyred director, extrapolating his thoughts and reducing him to the ploy of the reactionaries. The truth is that most of those who are presently on the news staff have nothing in common with the LA PRENSA of the Nicaraguans that was edited by Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. And if this is not the truth, we hope they will contradict us.

It was one thing to defend Nicaraguans against the Somoza dictatorship in the past, and another to defend one's own interests and those of the reactionaries. However, it is not satisfied with rolling down this dangerous incline. It has also taken on the task of defending counterrevolutionary sectors, assuming extreme and dishonest positions as in the case of Bernardino Larios, who plotted the mass assassination of the leaders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN). Shamelessly distorting the facts as usual, LA PRENSA, in a sensationalist headline, sought to have Cmdr Tomas Borge appear not as the victim, but as the culprit.

LA PRENSA refuses to investigate or confirm a report in order to give a complete account of the facts, alleging that to do so would restrict freedom of the press. However, its systematic use and abuse of this freedom, earned by our people in arms on 19 July, has led it to issue erroneous, distorted reports on a large number of events. We challenge the paper to correct us if it is not true that never in its history has it been refuted as much as it has been from May to the present. Its falsehoods have been uncovered.

Precisely this refusal to turn to the official sources of information led the paper to charge insidiously that the cattlemen in Boaco had been arrested simply because they are cattlemen, thus insinuating that this was a crime in Nicaragua. Our people learned from the very cattlemen under arrest, however, that they were arrested because they had been linked to counterrevolutionary activities.

Calling itself independent (?), it seeks to practice unrestrained journalism, disregarding the legal provisions promulgated by the revolution, but seeking their protection when it is expedient to do so. It talks of respect for laws, but on the other hand refuses to obey them, particularly in the case of reports linked to the security of the revolutionary state, since it is not really interested in seeing that state consolidated.

How can one be independent, if one exists by virtue of and is nourished by the sectors that, one way or another, impugn the revolutionary government? Just to read its pages provides a perfect understanding of its policy of information and an indication of who subsidizes the paper.

However, with great hypocrisy, this paper, whose norm has been misinformation, manipulation and disregard for the revolutionary government, has been posing as the victim.

It calls daily for laws to be issued to define the rules of the game. Yet, when the laws are issued, it refuses to respect them.

CSO: 3010

STATION HAILS PARDONS AS SIGN OF HUMAN RIGHTS CLIMATE

PA150347 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0500 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Station commentary by Carlos Jose Guadamuz]

[Text] Our revolution, through the junta of the government of national reconstruction, last week granted a pardon to 70 women jailed for their links to or actions in conjunction with Somozism.

In granting this pardon, several factors were considered, including age, health and the seriousness of the crime. In every case, very flexible criteria were used to make the measure more extensive. The pardon was not influenced by the presence in our country of the International [as heard] Human Rights Commission since the need to grant this pardon had been noted several weeks before.

This does not rule out the possibility of other pardons. BARRICADA already announced today that there will be another pardon by the end of the year. These are measures which, without verbosity, clearly speak of the true existence of human rights in our country. In this regard, our revolution has been completely different from other revolutions and periods of human upheaval in which severe punishment was swiftly meted out to the enemies of the people.

We are not referring here to fascist regimes which, upon overthrowing progressive governments or movements, have cut off as many heads as they could and destroyed the progressive forces by blood and fire. Close at hand is the memory of Chile, where Pinochet's fascists assassinated and caused the disappearance of thousands of activists and sympathizers of Salvador Allende's government; of the Dominican Republic, where, to crush the people's movement, U.S. soldiers killed thousands of Dominicans; of Bolivia, where the overthrow of Juan Jose Torres and recently of President Gueiler were accompanied by a torrent of the people's blood. We are referring to those governments that are presently repressing popular movements struggling for their liberations.

It is enough, therefore, to analyze this picture to realize that in Nicaragua, the exercise of human rights is unrestricted and applies to everyone. Only those who criticize us by profession, by instruction or because of commercial interests, that is, those who, in order to contradict us do not mind saying that it is nighttime even if it is high noon, only such persons, I repeat, can talk--without foundation or reason--of alleged violations of human rights. They are individuals who wish to ignore the fact that, only because of our generosity

as well as our tolerance, has it been possible for there to be the extremes of provocation and harassment in Nicaragua that are not permitted in any other country, not even in Switzerland.

The problem is that those individuals confuse the concept of human rights with their (?former) rights which ranged from the exploitation and humiliation of our workers to the yielding of our sovereignty to the interests of the world imperialist system and which included the rigid censure and repression of newsmen who work for radio stations that today are complaining of an alleged limitation of freedom of expression.

Unfortunately for them, such rights will never again prevail in Nicaragua because the only thing which shines here today is the sun of freedom, the sun of the workers, of the peasants, of the students, of the children, of our heroic women. This is the only sun that will shine forever.

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

'NUEVO DIARIO' NOT TO JOIN IAPA--Dr Danilo Aguirre Solis, president of the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists, UPN, and assistant director of EL NUEVO DIARIO, said the newspaper definitely will not join the IAPA. In a brief interview with local reporters, Dr Aguirre Solis said the newspaper cannot associate with news merchants such as IAPA because EL NUEVO DIARIO serves exclusively the interests of the Nicaraguan people and consequently interprets the concept of freedom of expression within a totally revolutionary mechanism. IAPA, on the other hand, he added, merely publishes news for commercial purposes and exercises the freedom of expression as a business; that is, that freedom of expression that best suits its members' interests by handling those news items which are suitable to them politically and economically, with which we fully disagree. [Excerpt] [PA171701 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 80]

CSO: 3010

PAPER PRAISES U.S. AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENTS

PA101953 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 9 Oct 80 p A-4

[Editorial: "Ambassador Moss' Statements"]

[Text] When U.S. Secretary of State Muskie spoke at the UN General Assembly 2 weeks ago, he did not mention Latin America. This surprised most of the Latin American and other delegations which are perfectly aware of the seriousness of the situation in this area of the world and the U.S. interest in it.

However, U.S. Ambassador to Panama Ambler Moss delivered a speech at the Center for Inter-American Relations in New York in which he dealt with the subject of the Central American area and Panama. He not only showed great knowledge of the subject but expressed a number of courageous thoughts.

It is evident that the Carter administration has brought about an in-depth change in the way the Latin American situation is viewed. A fundamental factor has been its policy in favor of human rights which has been widely criticized by several governments of the region.

No one doubts that there is communist penetration but to believe that this atheist doctrine is the cause of all evils is to hide the sun with one hand and to seek an easy excuse to commit all kinds of abuses. Ambassador Moss clearly said--and we share his views--that "despite Cuba's evident interest in the area, what we are seeing in Central America today would not be very different if Fidel Castro and the Soviet Union did not exist." The U.S. diplomat added that "the political and social changes that we are now seeing are natural and inevitable, and the instability and violence which are shaking the region are mainly the result of internal factors."

Regarding Panama, the ambassador mentioned the relationship which has been established between Panama and the United States as result of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. We think it was a very opportune moment to discuss this subject because Republican candidate Reagan has referred several times to the canal treaties in a way which shows his ignorance.

One does not frequently find high-ranking U.S. Government officials who view and focus on Latin American problems, particularly those of Central America, with the frankness which characterizes Ambassador Moss. We hope that his statements will find support in the State Department since the United States must, of necessity, play an important role in the region whether for good or evil.

CSO: 3010

TURBAY'S CONGRATULATIONS TO ROYO DESCRIBED AS 'CALCULATED'

PA121510 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Oct 80 p 8

[Article by Julio E. Linares: "Turbay Ayala and the Monteria Treaty"]

[Text] Although it is a known fact that state funds were used to favor certain candidates, especially from the Revolutionary Democratic Party [PRD], we will not state here that the elections of Sunday, 28 September, were a fraud. As mere observers of these elections, we do not have, at least for now, enough facts to maintain such a charge. Because of our education and temperament, we refrain from making statements which we cannot prove even if we could obtain personal or political benefits from them.

However, there is a reality which has been charged and even admitted by those who participated in the elections, including the top PRD hierarchy. This reality lies in "the blunders and deficiencies in the organization of the elections which prevented thousands of citizens from voting," to use the words of a PRD communique published on 3 October in MATUTINO. These blunders and deficiencies were "harshly" criticized by the government itself in this communique.

If according to the dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy the adjective "irreproachable" means that "admitting or deserving no criticism" and if the noun "flaw" means "defect found on something which makes it imperfect," the 28 September elections were far from "irreproachable" or "flawless."

If this is so, for those who are not familiar with international relations, the dispatch that Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala sent to President Royo the day after the elections to "congratulate him for the democratic elections" held here "to elect one-third of the members of the National Legislation Council in an 'irreproachable' process," is, to say the least, a foolish act.

Let us not be deceived. Turbay Ayala is not a scatterbrain who is accustomed to speaking or acting thoughtlessly. He is not misinformed about the Panamanian situation either. It is just the opposite. He is not only very well informed but he talks and acts with sound judgment. His statements and actions are aimed at one objective which is more than just considered, it is premeditated: Panamanian ratification of the Monteria treaty.

It is a well-known fact that with the Contadora declaration and the subsequent signing of the Monteria treaty, Colombia obtained the possibility of continuing

to enjoy most of the colonialist rights that the Thompson-Urrutia treaty granted to it regarding the Panama Canal and railroad. This is a treaty that was repudiated by the Panamanian governments prior to 11 October 1968. The Monteria treaty debate was suspended, as it may be recalled, in an act of patriotic rebelliousness by the National Assembly of Corregimiento representatives.

As long as Panama does not define its stand regarding the Monteria treaty, we cannot expect anything but "solidarity," "sympathy," "cooperation," "understanding" and so forth from Turbay Ayala so that we ratify that ill-fated treaty. What is more, he will support, as he is already doing and as his predecessor, Alfonso Lopez Michelsen did, the legal-political system which has been imposed on us in order to win over and keep the friendship of those who are ruling us. It will be a different story once the treaty is ratified or rejected. Meanwhile, the Panamanian Government will always find a valuable ally in Colombia which will back all its initiatives and domestic policies regardless of how undemocratic they may be. The national interest of Colombia demands it be thus.

Consequently, we must be on the alert. Let us not be seduced with congratulations and compliments. Let us not be naive in believing that "the message that the Colombian president sent to Panamanian President Aristides Royo Sanchez congratulating not only him but Panama for this new reaffirmation of liberty and civism acquires greater importance" in the face of the Panamanian opposition's doubts about the government impartiality in the past elections as was stated in an editorial of a morning newspaper.

These congratulations are calculated...and calculated actions are insincere.

CSO: 3010

PDC OFFICIAL SAYS ELECTION RESULTS PROVE PEOPLE WANT CHANGE

PA122303 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Oct 80 p 4C

[Article by Miliciades A. Ortiz, Jr; quotation marks as published]

[Text] The election has proven that the majority of the people here are in the opposition and want institutional change so we can have real democracy, Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) Political Commission, has stated.

"The PDC had three goals in mind upon registering for and participating in the election: First, political participation by a growing number of people, particularly young people who have not had the experience of political democracy in the past 12 years," Dr Arias Calderon said in a mellow voice.

He added that: "On 9 October [1979] it was verified that the thinking of the Panamanian people is contrary to that of the regime. But a way had to be found to express the opposition of the average citizen politically, since the average citizen is at the core of democracy. This is one reason why we decided to register and participate in the election."

Dr Arias Calderon paused and then went on with his methodic discourse.

"Another objective was to further organize the PDC. Democracy requires extensively organized parties, parties that are geographically and socially involved in integration work. Without 'integrating' parties in this twofold way there can be no effective democracy."

We briefly interrupted him to ask about the word "integrating." The doctor in philosophy, professor at the University of Panama and former academic vice president of the International University of Florida, replied directly:

"The best way to explain this is to sum up the Christian Democrats' experience in the past 6 months. We were about 1,500 to 2,000 strong, although we thought we had many other anonymous sympathizers.

The registration process permitted us to recruit 35,875 people and the PDC candidates got approximately 160,000 votes--20 percent of the total votes cast. The interesting thing is that the registration figures and the votes came from all over the country and so our organization is present throughout the republic. Our

membership encompasses various social strata: from banana workers in Baru, where we got a majority vote, to middle-class professionals in San Francisco [neighborhood] and Panama City where the voter turnout was very high, and it includes important peasant sectors in Veraguas.

"The PDC was a party of middle-class professionals and small groups from other sectors in the 1960's. It has become a party with a broad popular base. Its provincial leadership has been renewed. It has gained experience through the registration and the election. This has left us a strong, broadly based organization."

"The third goal was to exert ever stronger twofold pressure on the regime: to take away elements of its sociopolitical power and also to unmask its abuse of power. We have been able to draw away segments of the population from under the wing of the regime and we have also compelled the government to demonstrate its incompetence while organizing the electoral process and show its effort to manipulate the process in an arbitrary fashion."

It was almost impossible to get a word in because Dr Arias seemed to be ecstatic as he answers the question. It is obvious he has a lot to say about the PDC to which he has devoted 16 years.

About the meaning of the recent election, he said: "In our opinion, 53 percent of the voters voted for the opposition: 19 to 20 percent voted for the PDC, 13 percent for the Liberal Party and 20 percent for independent opposition candidates, while a mere 48 percent voted for the government in some way (41 percent voted for the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), 4 percent for the Popular Broad Front and 4 percent for independent candidates linked to the regime)."

The meaning then is that the majority voted against the regime.

About the abstention rate, Dr Arias Calderon said: "I think 40 percent didn't vote in one of three ways: Through /political indifference/ [slantlines denote boldface as published]--as happens in every election. In Panama's electoral history this has never been below 10 to 15 percent. Through /involuntary abstention/ by those who wanted to vote but due to the disastrous electoral lists were unable to do so because their names were not properly listed, their identification card numbers were wrong, their assigned booths were too distant and so forth. Involuntary abstention may have totaled 5 to 8 percent. Finally, through /voluntary/ abstention with full political conscience which is at least half the total abstention rate, 20 percent. If this percentage of opponents to the regime is added to the votes against the government, we have to conclude that the election was an /outright defeat/ not only for the PRD, but for the regime itself.

The methods of the people in opposition who voted and those who abstained were different, but not their objectives. Both agree on the fundamental objective that a change is necessary not just of the people who are in power or in their policies but in the political institutions."

"Everybody saw the incredible disorganization of the electoral process. I think the election has dramatically posed two basic tasks to the nation: the revamping of the electoral legislation and the electoral apparatus, and the waging and intensifying of the struggle for institutional change in Panama.

Without giving the reporter an opportunity to rest, Dr Arias went on: "About the first task it is necessary for the electoral tribunal to limit itself to settling disputes regarding the interpretation and application of the electoral law. A superior electoral council must be created with the participation of the parties and independent figures who would be in charge of the electoral organization as such; that is, the identification cards, the voting lists and the effective performance of the voting booths. The present system which leaves this up to three magistrates has failed."

"Regarding the second task, the opposition sectors, backed by the broad majority of their supporters, must clearly establish the way to exert more pressure on the regime and make a specific proposal for change to the nation.

What do you think General Torrijos' attitude should be now?

"In General Torrijos' own words in a document entitled 'The Final Objective,' the regime is based on three things: the PRD, the official legislators and the National Guard. The first two have made a poor showing during the election. This means that the regime's component parts have failed. The National Guard in a way has been left out in the cold, politically speaking.

"It engendered and still backs this regime. It cannot evade the responsibility of admitting that the people want a different regime so as to live in genuine democracy."

As a final word, Dr Arias Calderon said that: The role played by the young people is noteworthy. The most significant victory in this regard is that of Nestor Gutierrez in Chiriqui. I must also highlight the role played by women, not in the traditional "political kitchen" but in direct political activity.

"The support given us by these two groups makes us feel proud and a tremendous responsibility," he stated.

CSO: 3010

FORMER ENVOY TO U.S. DISCUSSES ELECTION RESULTS, ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PA060026 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Oct 80 p 8C

["Counterparty" column interview with Carlos Lopez Guevara, former Panamanian ambassador to the United States and canal treaties negotiator, by Milciades A. Ortiz; no date or place given]

[Text] Panama needs a radical change. This was said in a peaceful way by the people on 28 September elections, in which the leaders "were led" by the citizens, Carlos Alfredo Lopez Guevara says in an extensive and profound interview which deals with current and future political and economic matters.

Elections: Serious Warning

The distinguished Panamanian lawyer, diplomat and public man told LA PRENSA:

"One should never govern without the people's approval. Ours is a people which believes in Judeo-Christian values and resents any measure which is suspected, even slightly, of being influenced by communist elements. That is why the educational reform was rejected. Last October the people held a march. In the recent elections, the people once again of their own free will went to the polls to tell General Torrijos and the National Guard high command that it is time to give the state apparatus a democratic tuneup."

He then continues to analyze the significance of last Sunday's elections, without a question from the interviewer.

"It is still too early to make a final statement because I do not have the final figures. But the vote by the opposition as well as the opposition expressed through abstention are clear indications of the need for radical changes in the constitutional structure."

As if he were giving a lecture at the university, the former treaty negotiations adviser continues expressing his views, some of which he has prepared in writing to help the interviewer. Now he talks about national development matters closely related to politics:

"The elections proved that development should not occur by sacrificing freedom. This is what the people of Colon said despite the $130 million program the government approved for Colon. The people of Colon resented the fact that the

project was imposed on them and they were never consulted even up to the point where, in the ceremony which initiated the project, Colon had no representative on the main board."

Lopez Guevara summarizes his views on last Sunday's elections:

"The people in a peaceful manner and high civic spirit have given a serious warning which I am sure the National Guard high command and its commander in chief are still considering and which is probably encouraging them to think responsibly and profoundly. The National Guard will listen to the people's message for peaceful measures leading to a government of national unity which will facilitate the reforms to the constitutional structures."

The Foreign Debt Problem

Lopez Guevara discloses to the reporter an interest in matters related to Panama's economic development. In this area as in the legal, diplomatic and the canal fields, he is an expert with definite ideas on the topic. That is why he says:

"There are serious problems affecting the entire republic and future generations. The public debt, through which many public works have been carried out, is almost $3 billion. At present 50 percent of the nation's budget goes to pay the interest on the debt. When interest goes up 1 percent, the debt increases by $30 million. This is serious.

"There are flagrant violations of the canal treaty which can only be dealt with categorically if we have national unity. There are 100,000 unemployed. Can we create 20,000 new jobs per year? Cerro Colorado is a development alternative."

He tries to incorporate the political aspect in what he has said by adding in a low but firm voice:

"The aforementioned problems are very serious. These are not the government's or the opposition's problems. These are the problems of Panama and of all Panamanians. They mainly affect the large mass of peasants, Indians and workers, who lack the means to cope with the crisis and unemployment."

National Unity the Only Way Out

In keeping with his meticulous manner, Lopez Guevara summarizes his thoughts once he has completed his exposition. Thus he adds:

"All these problems are waiting for an adequate solution. The best chance for a solution is through national unity which I trust our local leaders can carry out in cooperation with the National Guard."

Not satisfied with this, Lopez Guevara explains his view to clear up any doubts:

"We should hold open and permanent meetings to try to find solutions in a brotherly attitude, inspired by our flag, which every Panamanian can see permanently atop Ancon Hill, and which proves that only through a unity of views are the nation's great strategic objectives achieved."

At the risk of being a little indiscreet, we ask Lopez Guevara, former Panamanian ambassador to the United States, his opinion about Gen Omar Torrijos. There is a pause, Lopez Guevara meditates for an instant, looks at the ceiling as if trying to find the adequate words and with a smile which immediately disappears, he gives his opinion:

"Torrijos has proven to have great political acumen. He is definitely analyzing the people's message contained in the voting and abstention of the recent semi-elections."

Lopez Guevara may have noticed that what he has just said has caused a negative reaction which I cannot keep from showing in my face and he adds, trying to explain his view:

"The situation in Panama cannot remain unchangeable and General Torrijos' political acumen will cause him to seek better formulas for political coexistence for Panama, free of the social upheavals which are currently affecting Central America at a tremendous social cost."

I cannot remain silent and, setting aside the role of interviewer, I let Lopez Guevara know my opinion about the negative influence that General Torrijos has had on the nation's life. I ask him to forgive me for my brashness and with a smile and with great diplomacy, he accepts my apology.

I go over portions of Lopez Guevara's written notes and I go over what he says about communism.

Flirting With Communism

"I wish to point out emphatically that the government's flirtation with the communists is hurting the economy. This flirtation scares away investors and is a deadweight holding back the economic takeoff we all expected after the treaties were signed. The latest election proves that the popular masses reject the communists and only vote for them when they are disguised as lambs."

"Communists are like the shade of the chamomile tree; they are harmful for one's health. Poland best demonstrates that communism is not the best promoter of workers' rights. Guided by Valeza in Gdansk, the workers of Poland invoked the Virgin Mary in order to win over the omnipotent communist state, and they achieved their goal. The photographs that appeared in the factories were not of Lenin or Stalin, but of the Virgin Mary and Pope John Paul II. Flirting with the communists brings us nearer to the climate of violence in Central America.

People's Wish Should Be Considered

Once again, the interview is channeled. I insist on solutions to the nation's problems and Lopez Guevara outlines concrete action:

"We are still in time to find solution formulas. One could be a constituent [assembly] following a broad discussion to choose the candidates and to agree on the main issues of the reform, both legal and political. The nation is demanding

a radical change and has said so peacefully. Our leaders were led by the citizens in the recent partial popular consultation. It is time the leaders got in tune with the will of the people."

"I hope so," I say with a sigh. Lopez Guevara shows optimism and smiles, willing to continue to speak, but this is not possible because there is work to do on the newspaper.

CSO: 3010

INTERVIEW WITH FORMER GUERRILLA HUGO SPADAFORA

PA180402 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16, 17 Oct 80

[Interview with Dr Hugo Spadafora, former deputy minister of public health and commander of the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade--dat not given]

[16 Oct 80 p 8C]

[Text] Dr Spadafora had been in Panama for 24 hours. Because of that extra sense journalists have, we knew that he had returned to the country and that he would stay only briefly.

After talking to a few people, we were able to find the guerrilla doctor, if he could be called that. He gave us an appointment at his residence and we were there on time. One of his bodyguards received us.

We are told the person who greeted us is not a bodyguard but one of the fighters of the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade that the brigade puts at Spadafora's disposal when he is in Panama. We went up to his residence and one of his assistants was waiting for us. We were announced and then Commander Hugo appeared smiling and cheerful happy. He greeted us warmly and appeared surprised we were there on time. "One of the greatest sins of we Latins, is tardiness," he told us. He looked for a chair. Then we sat down and the conversation began without agenda. It was an informal talk during which we discussed a little of everything. He was happy to be in Panama "although for a very short time," he told us. "I came to see my children, my parents and some close friends," he noted. Dr Spadafora looked thinner than usual. He told us he keeps in shape because he maintains a diet and exercises. He told us: "The truth is that I did not want it to be known that I am in Panama and I wanted an interview even less."

After the opening informal conversation, we asked him the first question.

LA PRENSA: Doctor, according to international reports you have been involved in revolutionary movements in some Central American countries. Particularly in El Salvador. You are also being linked to the trafficking of arms to those countries. What can you tell us about that?

Spadafora: I have always said I am a leftist militant with an internationalist awareness. I am also a man of action. With these two ingredients, and knowing that I struggle in order to be consistent with my ideas, it is impossible not to

link me to the liberation struggles being waged and that will be waged in this continent. I will always cooperate as much as I can with this type of struggle. Regarding my activities or any detail I will say nothing. I will remain loyal to my position as a militant of the revolution in Latin America.

LA PRENSA: Then you admit you have direct links with the groups that are struggling in neighbor countries?

Spadafora: I have never denied that. Never. Regarding the arms traffic, I give this word a commercial connotation. I have never trafficked in arms. However, I would like to have many weapons to give to the revolutionary groups struggling in Latin America.

LA PRENSA: You have been out of the country approximately 3 and 1/2 months. Could you tell us where you have been all this time? Did you visit Central American countries where revolutionary groups are struggling?

Spadafora: I will give that question a general answer. I came to the country to see my children and to say hello to some friends. I have visited some countries and in some of them I have worked in favor of my revolutionary ideals. However, I have not broken any law in any of the countries I have visited.

LA PRENSA: In those trips you have carried out in the past few weeks, have you had a chance to visit Nicaragua and see how the Nicaraguan revolution is doing?

Spadafora: I have visited Nicaragua. I consider Nicaragua as another fatherland and whenever I have an opportunity to visit it, I do it. I believe despite all the errors and deficiencies natural in any human-led process, the Nicaraguan revolution maintains the popular support it earned from the very beginning. I also believe that the Nicaraguan people are the true makers of that revolution.

Blind and emotional anticommunism is overwhelming many and prevents them from seeing the true situation of the Nicaraguan process. For example, not long ago, statements by Monsignor Obando, bishop of Nicaragua, defending the right of Nicaragua to carry out its revolution, even if it is socialist, were published here. However, this had been published in Panama as a paid advertisement approximately 2 months ago. Those statements were published together with a document from more than 200 clergymen of El Salvador denouncing the crimes committed daily in that country by the so-called Military-Christian Democratic Junta.

LA PRENSA: To what do you think caused the recent disturbances and complaints, such as in Bluefields concerning the involvement of Cuban teachers and technicians in that revolution? It has been mentioned that the revolution is going communist.

Spadafora: There is something inherent to every revolution: the fears that stem from prejudice or created interests which are endangered. There is a famous phrase that every revolution carries with it, its own counterrevolution. In Nicaragua's case there are many fears from bona fide individuals who, due to their anticommunist prejudices, see the danger of having the Soviets or Cuban troops in Nicaraguan territory in every progressive and radical action. There

are also the fears of those who see their privileges in danger because of the revolutionary victory. Considering the ignorance into which the dictatorship plunged the Nicaraguan people—illiteracy, political ignorance, misinformation--the least one can expect from such a movement is that some popular sectors can be mobilized because of those fears, prejudices, misinformation and so forth.

That to me explains the demonstrations and unrest occurring in Nicaragua and any that may occur in the future. However, even publications such as TIME magazine admit that the revolutionary process is being carried out in a rather balanced way. Now then it is true there are many Cuban teachers and technicians there. But those technicians don't cost the Nicaraguan people a penny.

The Nicaraguan Government asked all nations, including the United States of America, for help. The only country that responded with largess was Cuba. There are, however, teachers and technicians from many other countries, for instance, Mexico; not as many as there are Cubans but there are some. However, we know that when Cuba is mentioned everybody shivers. In fact there is a Latin American army of peace in Nicaragua helping the revolution rebuild a half-destroyed nation.

LA PRENSA: Don't you think that group of Latin Americans who have gone to Nicaragua is a leftwing group interested in promoting a leftist revolution?

Spadafora: I would say most of them are. That is to be commended. They are being consistent with their ideas. Let's not forget that when one wants to criticize, one criticizes. I have heard much criticism of the left because it doesn't work and just puts forth ideas. However, now it is being criticized because it is working for its ideals. Then what's the score? We should commend these people who work for their ideals even if they are leftwingers.

LA PRENSA: Doctor, what was your impression of the assassination of General Somoza?

Spadafora: I was glad, like all the people of Nicaragua who celebrated. I was in no condition to celebrate since I was neither in Panama, nor in Nicaragua. I was very glad, however, and I shared the joy expressed by the government and people of Nicaragua.

LA PRENSA: Who do you think assassinated him?

Spadafora: The truth is that the Paraguayan Government has handled this whole thing very poorly and has given so many contradictory versions that I do not dare give an opinion. I hope and expect it was revolutionaries who did it.

LA PRENSA: Rumors, which sometimes go faster than press reports, have it that you were linked with the plane that crashed in El Salvador with a load of arms in which pilot Cesar Rodriguez was injured. It was later rumored that you were traveling in the second plane that picked up Captain Rodriguez and brought him to Panama? [as published]

Spadafora: I am used to this type of rumor. In December 1978, a magazine in Panama published a report that I had died along with guerrilla priest Gaspar Garcia Laviana.

Several months later, General Somoza himself announced my death on radio and television in Managua, but today, he is the one that is dead.

Now I am being linked with the plane crash and two other air accidents. The truth is that I have never been linked to any of these flights.

LA PRENSA: About 2 weeks [ago], a plane was lost on the Atlantic coast, between Veraguas and Colon provinces in which four persons originally only identified by pseudonyms were traveling. It was later learned that they were Salvadoran leftist leaders. The international press only identified three of the four passengers. It was rumored that you were the fourth, although his identity was later learned. Did you know anything about this flight?

Spadafora: I really do not know anything about it since I was in another country and I knew nothing of the whole thing. I only knew about it later and I do not know the slightest thing about the flight.

LA PRENSA: Why did this plane, which, it was said, was going from Costa Rica to Panama and, therefore, should have been flying on the Pacific side, get lost in the Atlantic?

Spadafora: Sincerely, I know nothing of this matter. I know nothing.

LA PRENSA: Will you be returning again to your revolutionary activities?

Spadafora: I shall be leaving soon. I am returning to my international militant revolutionary activities.

LA PRENSA: Does this mean you are going to take up a flag? Will you fight again? Are you going to organize a new battalion? What kind of militancy will you be involved in?

Spadafora: Let us allow time to reply to this question with future events.

LA PRENSA: What is your impression of the elections held a few days ago in Panama?

Spadafora: Generally speaking, I heard that voting was fairly evenly shared by the opposition and the government. The Democratic Revolutionary Party got a majority, but not what it expected. That is, a large percentage of the people voted with candidates of the opposition. This result is in line with the observations I made more than 1 year ago to the effect that the nation is fairly divided between government forces, that is pro-Torrijos forces, and the forces of the opposition.

This gives more validity to the line I have proposed to promote and serve as a simple citizen: the quest for national unity. The nation cannot be ruled,

broken in two between forces that view each other as mortal enemies; this does not work. I think that these elections, among other elections [as published] it offers us, shows that there is need to seek unity and national concord. Not in an abstract way, however, but based on concrete development programs. These certainly are not difficult to achieve if discussed at a negotiation table in a positive way and in good faith, setting aside egotism and biases, which bring forth the uncontrolled ambition that for a long time has moved politics in this country. We must put forth a little more patriotism and unselfishness and true patriotic fervor to rebuild this country. If not, I believe we are on the path to disaster.

PA181922 [17 Oct 80 p 6]

[Text] LA PRENSA: Over a year ago you were one of the first persons to mention the need for all groups to join in national unity to save the country from the crisis it was facing at the time and which still persists. Do you still feel the same?

Spadafora: I have always felt that way. I have said so in every meeting and place I have been and, for my own satisfaction, I have been congratulated by many persons, by the humblest and by all socioeconomic groups.

Besides, I have observed that neither Dr Arnulfo Arias nor Gen Omar Torrijos have said anything against my thesis. It would have been very easy for Dr Arnulfo Arias, who has a very peculiar political style, to have ridiculed my thesis. I feel that Dr Arias has acted very prudently by not criticizing me, not even in private as far as I know. Neither from General Torrijos, of whom I am a follower and friend, have I received any opposition to my thesis.

I have met with leaders from the opposition and from the party in power and I have not heard opinions against the thesis from them. We all agree that it is very difficult, but they do not question the logic behind my thesis.

LA PRENSA: You talk as if General Torrijos were the country's current ruler. Why?

Spadafora: I insist on what I have always said. There are only two leaders in this country, Dr Arnulfo Arias and Gen Omar Torrijos. Dr Arias is followed by a large sector, perhaps the majority of the Panamanian people. General Torrijos is followed by a large sector of the civilian population, among whom I count myself. This I reiterate. Besides, he is the political and military leader of this country's army.

LA PRENSA: Do you refer to the leader in the sense of political power, or in the spiritual sense, that is, the leader who holds together and commands the masses?

Spadafora: President Royo from the first day as president of the republic and at all times, has always recognized that the leader of the revolutionary process is General Torrijos. This is accepted by all of us who participate in this process. I insist that General Torrijos is a political leader of domestic and

international stature. Besides, he is also the commander in chief of this country's army, which is very important.

We must admit, at least this is my opinion, that the National Guard under the command of General Torrijos, is a factor of stability in this country, if we compare Panama with other typical Latin American countries, in which we observe cycles in which coups alternate with democratic elections, widening the divisions in those countries more each day.

Here we have a leader who observes a civil attitude. General Torrijos can be strongly criticized as a ruler for his mistakes and shortcomings, the same as any other ruler. But we cannot deny, at least this is my opinion, that he does maintain a civil attitude and that he tries to find civilian solutions to the country's problems. I think that the opposition as well as official sectors should take advantage of this. We must seek this historic meeting--and I repeat what I said a year ago--we must seek the great historic meeting between the Panamenist, liberal and other opposition groups with the Torrijist groups.

LA PRENSA: We continue stressing national unity, but at the same time we see that instead of national unity, the chasm between the government and the opposition is widening each day. For instance, we see it in the treaties which are criticized more and more each day and fewer persons want to get involved in this problem to find a solution which should serve to unite all Panamanians. What do you think about this?

Spadafora: I think the North Americans have much to be faulted for regarding the treaties. In fact, not just the opposition, but our own sectors strongly criticize the treaties. I think it is due more than anything else to the fact that what was already agreed upon and signed is not being complied with. This stirs the flame of discontent from both sectors. Criticism within the government is as harsh as that expressed by the opposition.

LA PRENSA: Do you think there is less unity today than before the treaties were approved?

Spadafora: In relation to the treaties, I do not think there are big differences. At least, they are not so hard to solve. I think that what we have here is a process that in politics as well as in medicine is known as a feverish state prior to a resolution. That is, there are illnesses which are cured through a fever, a high temperature. In the same manner, there are political processes which are also cured through big events. We are heading toward a political crisis which will require this historic understanding and in which the National Guard and a strong and balanced leadership as that of General Torrijos, will be key elements.

LA PRENSA: Regarding this process of purification, if it can be called that, don't you believe that one of the greatest problems we are facing is the corruption of this process? How can there be any purification if there is so much corruption?

Spadafora: The corruption has historical roots in these countries. It started with the corruption imported from Spain in colonial times and it continued throughout the Colombian administration.

The corruption in Panama is endemic. It did not happen since 1968 or 1940 when it became evident. It is as old as the republic. The revolutionary process headed by General Torrijos has failed in efficiently fighting this corruption. I believe this is one of the greatest problems. However, my personal experience was when I was a public official and I was able to confirm this, that General Torrijos, as the top leader of this process, wanted and still wants to fight this corruption.

Every time I tried to fight corruption in any way, from my political position, I had the approval and the encouragement of General Torrijos to do so. I had great problems with prominent people in the medical community in this country. I even had problems with the large pharmaceutical companies. There was a lot of money at stake and they tried to bribe as well as threaten and pressure me.

However, General Torrijos always encouraged me in my struggle against corruption. I repeat, corruption is something endemic in our country. It cannot be blamed on the government or the leader only. The government has failed in this but we, as a society, have also failed. I am sure that we could get General Torrijos' support to thoroughly fight this corruption in the country.

LA PRENSA: Don't you think that the revolutionary process, because of its name which means change, should have eradicated then, once and for all, the endemic corruption which you say the country is suffering?

Spadafora: I agree and I have said so. This is one of the deficiencies of this process. However, I am not pessimistic. I believe that it can be corrected. I think this is feasible if one can find the two forces I am talking about based on a well-designed program listing the fight against corruption among its priorities.

LA PRENSA: Doctor, in going back to you, after your revolutionary activities, do you plan to join the present government?

Spadafora: I am very satisfied and proud to say that I was a member of the revolutionary government. Specifically, I was deputy minister during the administration of General Torrijos when he was chief of government. I had many satisfactions. I like politics and political and administrative matters. I thought it was good to continue being part of the government but when the conflict in Nicaragua appeared I left, attracted by that great goal of fighting against the Somozas. Now, however, I have continued in my internationalist revolutionary activities.

I plan to return to Panama next year to establish myself there. I would like to have the experience I had before when I was a deputy minister. But I have made a firm decision not to accept any official position in this or any other government in the country. I am convinced that the only way for people to believe my statements about national unity is by seeing that I am not moved by personal interests.

So I have decided that as I sacrificed so many things I like to fight for just causes in other lands, such as being with my children and friends and in my fatherland, I feel I must give up the satisfaction of holding any government post for the sake of this policy of national unity. I will devote myself to promoting this policy next year when I return to my country. I will not accept any post from any government in power.

LA PRENSA: Does this mean that you will not participate in a democratic struggle in Panama even if it means running as a candidate in popular elections?

Spadafora: It means that I will not hold any post by election or appointment.

LA PRENSA: Don't you think you are going to extremes by thinking this way?

Spadafora: I don't believe so. I believe that a policy of national unity is definitely necessary. I believe it is the only way to avoid a civil war in the country. Too much is at stake because in talking about a civil war in this country we are talking about the destruction of a peaceful and calm life such as that we are used to in Panama. Avoiding a war is the best inheritance that we can leave our children and all the good Panamanians.

LA PRENSA: Do you foresee internal struggles in Panama?

Spadafora: Well, we only have to look around us. We have to look at the other Latin American countries to see what is happening there. In looking at these examples, we will reach the conclusion that no country can long survive if it is split in two hostile sides such as is the case in Panama.

LA PRENSA: What does the government think of this?

Spadafora: I already said it in this interview and I have stated it in previous discussions. I believe in the open mindedness and the patriotic feeling of General Torrijos. I have said that he is an instrument of balance. I also believe that through this leader there will be an agreement with the opposition in Panama.

LA PRENSA: It is being rumored that the PRD has contemplated the possibility of calling on General Torrijos so that he will be its candidate for the next elections.

Spadafora: Sociologically speaking, I believe that a leader, when he is a true and genuine leader, will have his work carried out without having him in the presidency. I believe that General Torrijos, in his capacity as commander of the National Guard, president of a party or president of the republic can carry out any historical duty he is called for.

LA PRENSA: You have not answered the most important part of the question. Do you think General Torrijos will be a presidential candidate in the forthcoming elections?

Spadafora: I have no idea. But, I repeat, I don't think it is necessary for General Torrijos to be a candidate to preside, politically, over a national unity process.

I believe, and I insist on this, that he is the necessary element in this historic moment in Panama to carry forth the process of national unity and the same applies for Dr Arnulfo Arias. There can be no talk about national unity with Dr Arnulfo Arias being against that unity. Regardless of the posts Dr Arnulfo Arias and General Torrijos may occupy, the two are necessary elements for national unity.

LA PRENSA: Regarding yourself, you have said you will return in a year. Are you going back now to participate in an armed struggle in some country?

Spadafora: I have told you I prefer not to talk about my plans during my absence. Let us forget my future plans.

LA PRENSA: I insist. Where are you going to reside during your absence from Panama? El Salvador? Mexico?

Spadafora: In no fixed place.

LA PRENSA: Since you have connections with revolutionary movements, do you think the revolutionary forces of El Salvador will have the success the revolutionary forces of Nicaragua had?

Spadafora: I do believe that. The Salvadoran people are entirely against a criminal government. The movement is led by an organized vanguard that has demonstrated it has the capacity to arm a portion of the people for the struggle. There is no question that victory is on their side.

LA PRENSA: Don't you think that if the Salvadoran Government wants a democratic solution, through elections, there should be in El Salvador the unity you want for Panama?

Spadafora: When there are mass killings like those taking place in El Salvador, when there is a criminal repression like that taking place in El Salvador, then the road of dialog is closed. The environment in Panama is completely different than that in El Salvador. There is no doubt about that. In El Salvador, the only dialog the military has accepted with the revolutionary left until now is the dialog of bullets.

LA PRENSA: You talk about killings, are they being carried out by the Salvadoran Army as happened in Nicaragua?

Spadafora: Perhaps even worse. It is not just what I say. Monsignor Romero and hundreds of other high-ranking clergymen in El Salvador have charged that the policy of the Salvadoran Government is criminal.

LA PRENSA: What about Guatemala?

Spadafora: The repression in Guatemala is perhaps even worse than that in El Salvador, but it has less publicity. Many people are being assassinated in the countryside. Many clergymen, not only the left, have denounced these murders. In Guatemala also we shall see a revolutionary process that will put an end to a reactionary and criminal government.

LA PRENSA: Do you mean that the revolutionary groups opposed to the Guatemalan Government are not as well organized as those in El Salvador?

Spadafora: It has to be understood that processes do not take place simultaneously in countries. Every process has its beginning and its own development. The Guatemalan groups have not yet been able to give the process the massive dynamics we see in El Salvador. But in my opinion that is only a matter of time and revolutionary work. I believe it will come...and very soon.

CSO: 3010

NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT STUDIES SURINAME TREATY REQUEST

The Hague ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU in English 3 Oct 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Hague, October 3--The Dutch government is studying a Surinam request for early talks on the country's most pressing social and economic problem--the mass exodus of Surinamese and the return of expatriates, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

The request was made by Surinam's deputy premier Andre Haakmat when he met Dutch Development Cooperation Minister Jan de Koning in New York this week in the margin of the U.N. general assembly.

Mr Haakmat told Mr De Koning that Surinam wished to get two bilateral treaties which will expire on November 25 replaced by two new treaties.

One of the treaties, which dates from Surinam's independence five years ago, regulates the admission of Surinamese into the Netherlands. The second deals with the Dutch military mission in Paramaribo, capital of Surinam.

Mr De Koning told our correspondent in New York that the Surinam request for two new treaties had come to him as a surprise.

Unilateral Move

More than 150,000 Surinamese--more than a third of the country's population--have settled in the Netherlands since the country became independent in November 1975.

To stem the flow the Netherlands introduced visas for Surinam nationals last month, a unilateral move which the Netherlands says does not violate the terms of the 1975 treaty which allow for access to the Netherlands on easy terms.

When the treaty expires next month Surinamese will be subject to the normal aliens laws in the Netherlands including its clauses regulating family reunions and its 'very liberal' provisions for those who want to study in the Netherlands, Mr De Koning said.

The minister told our correspondent in New York that it would be inhuman to isolate the Surinamese from the Netherlands. Apart from the South Africans they were the only people abroad who speak Dutch.

However, he described the settlement of Surinamese in the Netherlands as a 'major disaster' which had thrown back Surinam's development an entire generation.

Mr Haakmat said he failed to understand why the Netherlands had introduced visas for Surinamese after Surinam had made proposals to solve the problem and after his government's strenuous efforts to encourage the return of expatriates.

He said the Surinam government had formed a commission on Monday to prepare for talks with the Netherlands on the migration problem. He had asked Mr De Koning to use his influence in the Dutch cabinet to get the talks started by mid-October.

The treaty dealing with the Dutch military mission in Paramaribo will be extended by one year on November 25 under a bilateral agreement initiated last month. The agreement provides for further one-year extensions at a time if tacitly approved.

CSO: 3120

END

END OF FICHE DATE FILMED

11/10/80 DM